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THE TIMES

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EEC chiefs protest in Washington

Three EEC commissioners descend on Washington tomorrow to protest at American writs brought against European steel producers for alleged dumping. American officials will no doubt draw the commissioners attention to growing protectionism, not only by the EEC as a whole but by individual member states against one another Page 5

Tougher rules on fines sought

Tougher sanctions involving more use of the threat of imprisonment to enforce payment of fines are sought by the Justices Clerks Society, which is disappointed that no provision for stricter fines procedures has been made in the Criminal Justice Bill Page 2

Thais capture warlord's den

Thai Government forces have captured a prosperous town built and run by an opium warlord in the Golden Triangle five miles from the Burmese frontier. The strongly-built brick houses and shops contrast with the bamboo shacks of neighbouring villages Page 6

MP likely to win reselection fight

Mr Benjamin Ford, Labour MP for Bradford, North, is likely to win his appeal today against the selection of a Militant Tendency supporter to replace him as the party's prospective candidate for the next general election Page 2

Closure threat to art gallery

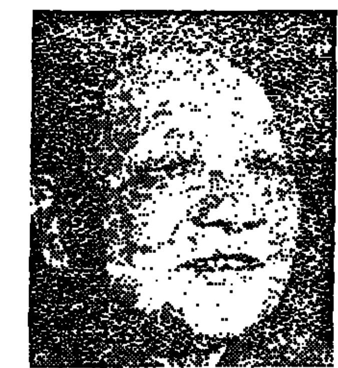
The closure of Manchester City Art Gallery is being considered by council officials in the latest round of spending reductions. If implemented, the gallery's 2,000 oils and 5,000 watercolours would go into storage Page 2

BL may halt trucks funding

BL could decide to halt investment in its new range of light trucks when the board meets this week for the first time since strikes began at Leyland commercial vehicle plants Page 11

Security talks' fate in balance

European foreign ministers are gathering in Madrid for the first session of the security review conference since Christmas. But an East-West confrontation over the imposition of martial law in Poland could turn it into the final session after 15 months of debate Page 4



Deng retirement arouses fears

Mr Deng Xiaoping's retirement from an active role in the administration of China has surprised observers of Chinese affairs and caused concern about the country's future. Opposition to his liberalizing policies has been growing among senior military commanders and bureaucrats Page 4

Another gold

June Croft ended the Arena swimming meeting in Paris with her fourth gold medal, in the 100 metres freestyle. The British squad ended with six gold medals Page 15

Reagan slashes welfare as budget deficit soars

From Bailey Morris, Washington, Feb 7

President Reagan has sent a controversial $758,000m (£407,750m) budget to Congress asking for unprecedented cuts in domestic spending in fiscal 1983 and projecting huge deficits, continuing high interest rates and steep unemployment for the next three years.

Announcing his intention "to stay the course", Mr Reagan admitted his prescription of even steeper cuts in social programmes is bitter medicine; but he said Congress and the American people must swallow it to avert the greater ill of "destructive inflation and financial disorder".

The new budget for the year beginning in October calls for spending of $757,600m and expected revenue of $66,000m, which would result in a deficit of $91,500m. It calls for an 18 per cent increase in defence spending to finance the biggest peacetime military build-up in history.

The size of the projected deficits and the prospect of continuing high interest rates sent shudders through Republicans, but elicited more predictable responses from Democrats. Under Mr Reagan's projections, the deficit would drop only slightly to $83,000m in fiscal 1984 and to $72,000m in 1985.

Mr Ted Stevens, the assistant Republican leader in the Senate, said he "was in a state of shock" while listening to the budget forecasts at a special briefing for Congressmen last Friday.

Mr Robert Dole, Republican chairman of the Senate finance committee, said: "I do not think it is a clear enough signal that we mean business about reducing the deficit".

Almost immediately, Democratic leaders said they would propose an alternative budget, delaying the Reagan tax cuts totalling $750,000m over the next five years and changing the pattern of spending cuts, possibly to include defence.

If Congress approved all that Mr Reagan asks, government spending for most programmes excluding defence would be cut by 16.5 per cent next year, and even more taking into account inflation.

The effect of the cuts would be about three times greater than the Reagan spending reductions last year which generated a fierce debate over the Administration's intentions. Critics described them as "benefiting the rich at the expense of the poor".

The new cuts would affect all the main programmes for the poor including food stamps, welfare payments, housing assistance, and food programmes for mothers on welfare with small children.

In addition, a variety of other programmes affecting middle class Americans and state maintenance programmes would be cut. These included college student loans, mortgage loans, vocational educational and rehabilitation funds, rent subsidies for the elderly, road and airports maintenance funds, fuel conservation grants and job training programmes.

Medicare and Medicaid, the most widely used forms of health and hospital insurance for the old, disabled and poor, would be cut by increasing the amounts patients pay and decreasing fees to doctors and hospitals.

About the only social programmes left untouched were social security and the "head start" programme for disadvantaged children started in the Johnson period.

Mr Reagan is relying heavily on a five-part budget savings plan designed to reduce federal participation greatly, Mr David Stockman, director of the Office of Management and Budget, said.

In addition to the social and domestic cuts — $11,700m in entitlement programmes and $14,200m in discretionary programmes — is an expected saving from three separate areas.

These Included $20,300m from federal "management initiatives" including intensified debt and tax collection and property disposal; $2,500m from a new series of "user fees" at airport and recreational facilities; and $7,200m in tax revisions encompassing an increased corporate minimum tax.

Mr Reagan emphasized that if Congress agreed to all the social cuts and approved the unpopular user fees and tax revisions, which is unlikely in an election year, the economy would still be grim with unemployment averaging 8.9 per cent this year and easing to 7 per cent in 1984. Interest rates are expected to average 11.7 per cent this year, down from 14.1 per cent in 1981, and remain about 11 per cent in 1983.

US reaction, page 11
Interest rates impact, page 13

Alliance to have one leader for election

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Social Democrats and the Liberals have agreed to go into the next general election with one leader of the alliance, an MP who would become Prime Minister in the event of an alliance victory.

The undoubted favourite for the post will be Mr Roy Jenkins, who is campaigning for a return to Parliament in the Glasgow, Hillhead, by-election.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, announced the agreement yesterday following a two-day joint discussion between the party leaderships at Kiddington Hall in Oxfordshire.

He said in an interview on the BBC radio *World this Weekend* programme: "There we were, the supposed contenders, sitting around discussing perfectly reasonably among ourselves how best we should proceed. And what we did agree on, and this was a unanimous view, was that we cannot go into the election with two party leaders, saying: 'Well, whichever gets the larger number of seats is to be the Prime Minister'."

Mr Steel said that option had been debated and had now been ruled out. He explained: "What that means is that when the SDP have decided who their leader is going to be, which they will do this year, we will then put our heads together and decide, and tell the electorate long before the election who, in the event of our forming a government, would in fact lead that government."

It appeared last night that the alliance leader would be chosen by the leaderships of the two parties, without formal consultation with party memberships. And it was suggested that the joint leader, or chairman, need not necessarily be a leader of either party; a suggestion which would keep Mr Jenkins firmly in the running even if he were not returned as the MP for Glasgow, Hillhead, and even if he failed to beat Mrs Shirley Williams for the SDP leadership this autumn.

One major implication of the Kiddington Hall agreement is that the leadership will not now be determined by the random factor of parliamentary seats won by each party at the general election.

Mrs Williams said yesterday: "We regard that very much as a lottery". She also said that it would be ludicrous to put the alliance leadership to a membership ballot.

The timetable is that once the Social Democrats have elected their leader in the next parliamentary session, the two leaderships, comprising senior party officers as well as MPs, would make their choice and the leader would be in place by the end of this year.

Mrs Williams said yesterday that it was absolutely essential that there should be an agreed leader; otherwise, the alliance would drift backwards into an election "like a tug going over a weir."

Those attending the meeting at Kiddington Hall, the country home of a prominent Liberal peer, apart from the SDP Gang of Four and Mr Steel, including Mr John Roper, the SDP whip, and Liberal MPs Mr Alan Beith, Mr Cyril Smith, Mr Richard Wainwright, Mr David Penhaligon and Mr Russell Johnston.

Mr Steel also disclosed yesterday that it had been agreed to force the pace of local consultations on the allocation of parliamentary seats between the parties.

Mr Steel said yesterday that the latest opinion poll, reflecting a slump of alliance support from 44 per cent last November to 34 per cent last week, according to a Market and Opinion Research International (Mori) survey published in the *Sunday Times*, was in part a reflection of the need to complete the process of seat allocation.

Yesterday's poll gave the alliance 34 per cent compared with 33 per cent for the Conservatives and 31 per cent Labour, with 2 per cent for others, but Mrs Williams said last night that she felt the figures reflected a blip rather than a trend. She said that other Kiddington decisions, to fight a joint campaign in the forthcoming local elections and to form joint policy programmes, would help to restore alliance standing.

Meanwhile, in the Commons tonight, the Social Democrats face their first major split over a policy issue when the House divides on the second reading of Mr Norman Tebbit's industrial relations legislation, the Employment Bill.

SDP and Tebbit's Bill, page 8.

Keith Waldegrave



Investigating the mystery of cot deaths: A baby's heart and breathing rhythm is recorded by Dr Elliot Shinebourne at Brompton Hospital, London, during trials aimed at preventing cot deaths. (Report, page 2).

The freight business BR may not win back

By Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent

The train drivers' strike is inflicting a deep and lasting wound on British Rail, but hurting its customers far less, the latest surveys show.

Most at risk after four weeks' mounting damage are freight business and the rural passenger lines. The latter—the 3,000 miles in Scotland, Wales and other country areas, which successive governments have declared almost sacrosanct—must now be regarded as highly vulnerable when the time comes for an inevitable strategy review by BR and the Department of Transport.

As a BR spokesman said yesterday: "How can the Government go on claiming that these lines are kept open because they are indispensable, when the past month has shown clearly that they are not?"

Even commuters were managing, he added, "and they are supposed to be our captive customers".

But if branch line closures are the most politically sensitive, BR itself is more concerned about the effect of the strike on the "commercial railway", Inter-City passenger and freight business.

In particular it is worried about the huge loss of freight traffic—at £20m to £25m more than half the total in the past four weeks—which it thinks will be far harder to win back than Inter-City passengers.

Road hauliers have leapt in to serve rail's best freight customers. In many cases they have demanded, and won, a year's contract to handle the strike-bound traffic.

Worst hit has been general merchandise, grain, food and drink, steel products, which under the brand name Speedlink, competes most directly with lorries and which BR has been seeing as its key growth area for the future.

Around 80 per cent of the fast overnight Speedlink business has been lost so far, and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen's new pattern of disruption this week will probably bring it completely to a halt.

"We will probably only have trains on Friday night and you cannot run a service like this on one night a week", a BR spokesman said yesterday. "We fought bloody hard to get this traffic, but now our customers are saying: 'You promised us total reliability and now, only a year after getting the traffic, here you are on strike'".

Other handling business badly hit are motorcars and oil, both expanding markets but very vulnerable to competition. Esso will soon be opening a new pipeline from Fawley to Gatwick, which will cost the railways several million tons of aviation fuel a year, and which they attribute directly to industrial troubles on the railway in the early 1970s.

Now other potential customers are thinking the same way. "Pipelines are not only competitive on price, but once built they are totally reliable", a BR manager ruefully admitted yesterday.

Even coal, the railway's staple freight traffic, generating around half the £540m annual freight revenue, is moving extensively by road and coaster. This is particularly so of domestic and industrial coal, which tends to move in smaller loads over shorter distances, but also of power station coal which, moving in regular train loads, is the nearest thing BR has, along with London commuters, to a captive traffic.

With these heavy bulk traffics—oil, aggregates, chemicals, building materials and coal—which tend to move into stockpiles rather than into immedi-

Continued on back page, col 3

Secret letter reveals risk to children of lead in petrol

By George Brock

A remarkable confidential letter written by the Government's leading medical adviser to several Whitehall chiefs last year reveals for the first time his fears about the dangers to children's health from lead in petrol.

Sir Henry Yellowlees, Chief Medical Officer at the Department of Health and Social Security, gave a warning in the letter that "there is a strong likelihood that lead in petrol is permanently reducing the IQ of many of our children".

The letter, which has been passed to *The Times* by the campaign for lead-free air (CLEAR), discloses fears which have been voiced in Whitehall while the Government's official announcements on the subject have been considerably more neutral. Contacted over the weekend, Sir Henry declined to comment.

"There is no doubt", the letter says, "that the simplest and quickest way of reducing general population exposure to lead is by reducing sharply or by entirely eliminating lead in petrol." Sir Henry adds that "some hundreds of thousands of children" are affected by the risk.

The letter, which Sir Henry describes it as "an unusual step", was written at the height of the battle in Whitehall last year over whether lead in petrol should be reduced, or even completely removed.

Liquid lead is added to petrol to boost the octane rating and to improve its efficiency; governments have progressively reduced the maximum permitted levels over the past decade. Two months after Sir Henry's letter was written, the Government announced that the maximum level was to be reduced by 1985 from 0.40 grams per litre to 0.15 grams.

It was a sharper reduction than the one favoured by the Treasury and the Department of Energy, who had argued that such a change would add several pence to the price of a gallon of petrol and had pressed for a small cut of 0.40 to 0.35 grams per litre. But the announcement was attacked by critics who said that the Government should have gone further and declared an intention to eliminate lead completely. Whitehall sources said last night that Sir Henry's views were well known at the time of the Government's decision and had been one of several factors affecting the outcome.

Sir Henry's letter makes it clear he was no longer willing to accept the conclusions of the Lawther Report, a study prepared by a DHSS working party and published in 1980, which challenged the evidence linking lead and brain damage.

In an appendix to his letter he lists fresh evidence which is "accumulating all the time —and it always points in the same direction as the existing evidence, so that the health case becomes steadily stronger blood lead in children."

He describes research being carried out at an EEC laboratory at Ispro in Italy: "Evidence just arrived at my Department indicates that petrol lead may contribute on average about 27 per cent of total blood lead in adults, from all sources (including food), and about 40 per cent of total blood lead in children".

This conclusion does not yet appear to have been accepted by Ministers. Mr Giles Shaw, Under-Secretary at the Department of the Environment in charge of the lead pollution programme, said in a letter to Mr Ernie Roberts, Labour MP for Hackney, North and Stoke Newington, two months ago that petrol lead contributed "less than 10 per cent on average" of blood lead.

Mr Des Wilson, chairman of CLEAR, said last night: "If the Yellowlees letter had been made public at the time, the Government could not possibly have taken the decision that it did." Mr Jeff Rooker, Labour MP for Birmingham, Perry Bar, said last night that he intended to ask whether the decision on lead levels had been taken with the benefit of Sir Henry's assessment.

The lead level set for British petrol by the end of 1985 will bring Britain into line with other EEC countries, but anti-lead campaigners are still pressing the Government to follow the initiative of Japan, the Soviet Union, Australia and the United States, which have all taken steps to eliminate lead entirely.

All Australian cars sold after 1985 will run on lead-free petrol.

Text of letter, page 2
Des Wilson, page 8

Settlement within days for Laker tours says receiver

By Michael Clark and Nicholas Timmins

Mr Bill Mackey, the receiver to Laker Airways, hopes to be able to dispose of the tour side of the business "within two or three days", as the Orion Banking Group, a subsidiary of the Royal Bank of Canada, attempted to put together a £35m rescue package for the company and money poured in to private funds set up to try to save the business.

Mr Mackey said yesterday that great interest had been shown in the tour side, both by big tour operators and other airlines. He hoped to hold serious talks with them, starting today. Those interested include Thomson Holidays, Cosmos and possibly Intasun.

Of Orion's rescue package, Mr Mackey said serious consideration would be given to it. However, he said, he thought it was an unlikely approach.

"I cannot see how a package can be instantly put together when we have had some of the best financial brains trying to save Laker for the last year or so." It was idle to pretend that it was possible to rescue Laker in its present form he said. The group had to be reconstituted into a salable package to people who were interested.

Details of Orion's plan are expected to be announced later today. It is expected to include an immediate cash injection of £35m. The banking group believe this is the figure needed to keep the business operational until a total reconstruction of the company could be completed. One possibility was of shares being offered to the public with a full quote on the London Stock Market.

Mr Christopher Chataway, deputy chairman of Orion, said yesterday that North American investors were strongly interested but believed the company must remain British with investment from British financial institutions.

The package, however, looks certain to require Lakers main creditors turning some of their loan into equity, a move considered unlikely in city circles yesterday. Mr Chataway said the question faced by those involved in Laker was "not whether they can get all their money back at exactly the moment they expected to, but how near they can get to that".

Laker has total debts of about £270m, against assets of only £200m, including his 20 aircraft and at the last count, shareholders funds stood at a mere £18m.

Mr Mackey said yesterday that there was not much time available. The tour subsidiaries were attracting strong interest, "but they will disappear if we do not sell them quickly. Laker and Arrowsmith are believed within the industry to have about 160,000 advance bookings.

Sir Freddie Laker was yesterday in secret talks with his advisers amid speculation that he might attempt to buy back at least part of his company. Interviewed on *The World this Weekend*, Mr Mackey said: "There is no earthly reason why he should not do so. So far as the receivers are concerned, his money is as good as anyone elses and Sir Freddie has ability and flair.

"I wouldn't be at all surprised to receive an offer from a consortium of which Sir Freddie is a part. I told him if he got involved in a consortium I would be interested to talk to him. He is a survivor and I think we will hear more of him."

The money being raised by the public, he said, was a tremendous gesture. It would not be caught up in settling Laker's debts, but could possibly go into one of the rescue attempts. Thomson Holidays, Britain's biggest package tour operator, said it was interested in the tour side of Laker's business and might be interested in some of the aircraft

Cash offers, page 2
Banks get tough, page 13

Horses better off than grooms

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Some grooms working for show jumping stables or riding schools earn less than it costs to keep the horses, a pressure group claimed yesterday.

In a report *Closing the Stable Door*, on the wages and working conditions of Britain's estimated 20,000 stable grooms, the Low Pay Unit says that stable owners exploit the dedication of young women workers

Quoting figures gathered by the unrecognized National Association of Grooms (NAG), the unit says that half the grooms interviewed in a survey earned less than £30 a week last year and one in 10 earned less than £10 a week, which is the amount required to feed a horse. Half the grooms worked up to 50 hours a week.

Case studies cited include one young woman in Gwent who wrote that her job involved working a 60-hour week for £5. "My accommodation was a disgusting caravan which I shared with my workmate. The gas leaked and the oven rarely worked".

In another case a "working pupil" in Ayrshire began work at 6 am and often ended at 9 pm, with one and a half days off in every nine. She received £2 a week pocket money and riding lessons, that rarely materialized.

The author of the report, Mr Simon Crine, writes: "The majority of grooms are young women, many of whom will not be able to afford to stay in the industry as their aspirations and responsibilities increase, because wages are so low and job insecurity is so great".

About half the grooms now working have qualifications awarded by the British Horse Society or are working towards this goal. The grooms work in private stables, riding schools and stud farms in numbers varying from one to six. Most employers break the law by not providing a written contract of employment within 13 weeks. *Closing the Stable Door* (by Simon Crine, 75p from the Low Pay Unit, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG).

Mugabe accuses Nkomo of plot to seize power

Norton, Zimbabwe, Feb 6.—Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwe Prime Minister, today accused Mr Joshua Nkomo's Patriotic Front (PF) party of plotting an armed take-over of the Government.

He was addressing a rally here in an angry mood after more than 4,000 automatic weapons and Sam 7 ground-to-air missiles were found yesterday on a farm 25 miles from Bulawayo owned by the Patriotic Front. He said Mr Nkomo's party "buys so many farms, which is but a guise for hiding guns". The Patriotic Front, he went on, "joined us in government just to string us along while planning for an eventual take-over of government".—AFP.

Justices' clerks seek tougher rules on fines

By Frances Gibb

Tougher sanctions involving more use of the threat of imprisonment to enforce payment of fines are urged by the Justices' Clerks' Society in its submissions, published today, on the Criminal Justice Bill.

The society is disappointed that the Bill, in its committee stage in the House of Commons, does not make more fundamental changes on enforcement, which it says is by far the most urgent problem in relation to fines.

The fine is the principal weapon in the armoury of the courts and is used for 48 per cent of offenders sentenced by crown courts and magistrates for indictable offences, the society says. Fines are imposed on 89 per cent of offenders sentenced for summary matters other than motoring, and on 99 per cent of those sentenced in motoring cases.

It is important that enforcement procedures should be certain and effective, the society says. If judges or magistrates were to lose confidence in the ability of the courts to recover fines, the use of them might diminish and could lead to more prison sentences.

The society rejects the minority view of the Wootton committee that the sanction of imprisonment should be removed for fine defaulters. "The plain fact is that greedy men who turn to dishonesty will not pay their fines unless faced with an alternative even less palatable to them".

For fines to be a real alternative to custody, courts must have the power to ensure they are paid promptly, the society says, and it urges an amendment allowing courts to fix an effective sanction against future default at the time of conviction.

Faced with a defendant not intending to pay a fine, or who already owed money, courts could proceed, under this amendment, to impose a fine rather than order imprisonment, knowing that any default would result in an immediate committal to prison.

The society says that proposals in the Bill on suspended sentences aimed at reducing overcrowding in prisons will result in more people, not fewer, in custody.

It opposes proposals for courts to be able to suspend part of a sentence. "We fear, notwithstanding the amendments which the Bill proposes, that there will be wide disparity not only in the use by courts of the partly suspended sentence as a sentencing option, but also in the way it was applied", the society says.

Under the Bill, where courts require a minimum of 28 days' imprisonment, there is no restriction on the maximum period that might be suspended. For sentences of up to two years, courts may order 28 days to be served and leave the rest in suspense.

Alternatively, in the society's view, courts can order up to 75 per cent of the sentence to be served, leaving only 25 per cent suspended. The aim should be to reduce the period of custody.

Other proposals are that detention centres should be available for girls as well as boys and that courts should have power to commit girls aged 15 to 20 to centres for from 12 days to four months.

Since the early 1960s there have been no detention centres available for girls and the Bill would reinforce this discrimination as no girls' centres are proposed.

Crime by girls and young women has risen out of all proportion to youths since the early 1960s, the society says, the courts are now faced with more and more girls committing serious crime and for whom no appropriate sentence is available.

□ Penny-pinching by magistrates is resulting in rough justice for many who appear in court, according to a report today. The Legal Action Group, made up of lawyers and legal experts, says that people are considerably more likely to leave the dock of, for instance, Reading Magistrates' Court without a stain on their character than they are at the court at Slough, no far away.

The group says the problem centres on different attitudes of courts towards granting legal aid, upon which legal representation often depends. There are vast discrepancies in the way courts go about granting such aid, the group states. Its research shows that a legal aid application is 28 times more likely to be refused at Slough than it is at Reading.

This, the group believes means that more people have to fend for themselves in court and ultimately receive tougher treatment.

Heart beats may give clue to cot deaths

By Annabel Ferriman
Health Services Correspondent

The deaths of more than 1,000 babies in Britain each year, from what has become known as cot death, could be due to abnormal heart and breathing rhythms, according to Dr David Southall, senior research fellow of the British Heart Foundation.

If an electrocardiogram (heart tracing) is taken of newborn babies, about 1 per cent have a rhythm abnormality and some of those abnormalities are associated with sudden death in adults. Dr Southall has set up a large-scale research project to test his theory.

A total of 7,500 apparently healthy babies had their heart and breathing monitored over 24 hours at one week and at six weeks after birth. After one year, 15 babies in the group had died from cot death, a death rate of one per 500, the same as the national average.

The original recordings of the 15 babies who died are being studied to see if any particular abnormality can be found. It is a massive task because the research team has to establish first what is normal, and a wide variation in heart and breathing patterns were recorded. No final result is expected for at least a year.

"It is tremendously important that the cause of cot death is discovered because it is something that has a shattering effect on parents", Dr Southall said. "There is no known cause but parents often feel that somehow they are at fault."

The research project, which involves a cross section of babies born in Brighton, Exeter and Doncaster between July 1980 and July 1981, is based at the Brompton Hospital, London.

Dr Southall believes it was important to carry out a prospective study, that is, one involving apparently healthy babies, rather than a retrospective study because reality became distorted with hindsight.

Answers from parents whose babies have died mysteriously are not reliable as many are too upset to remember details.

The research team at Brompton Hospital consists of Dr Southall, Dr Elliot Shinebourne, consultant paediatric cardiologist, Miss Jean Richards, a full-time graduate research worker, three part-time graduates and 15 part-time housewives.

The future of Laker

Cash offers from travellers

By John O'Leary and John Witherow

Promises of money to save Laker Airways continued to flood in yesterday to a rescue fund set up by a Sussex hotelier. A London businessman offered to convert all the private donations into a bid for the company before the end of the week.

Mr James Brown, aged 31, is setting up a Laker Consortium Trustee Account, with accountants Leigh Carr and Partners, with the aim of coordinating the public response to the collapse of the airline. He estimates that £3m has already been promised to various private funds and that £10m would be sufficient to enlist the support of banks for a bid for at least part of the business.

The largest of the appeals, the FF (Freddie Friendly) Fund, set up by Mrs Kay Hardy, in Seaford, Sussex, has firm promises of more than £500,000 and is moving into the local branch of Lloyds Bank in an attempt to keep pace with the administrative demands of incessant calls from well-wishers. Mrs Hardy is meeting Mr Brown before deciding whether to cooperate in a bid.

Offers made over the weekend ranged from £1 to £100,000. A pensioner who had worked for Sir Freddie sent a cheque for £50 and the Police pop group promised to give the proceeds of a special concert.

Mrs Hardy said yesterday: "It is impossible to tell how much we might raise. My phone has never stopped ringing with offers of all sorts of amounts of money to help Sir Freddie because people feel that he helped them. If we can just ward off creditors and keep the banks happy for a while, we will have done something useful". She added that Sir Freddie had telephoned her to express his thanks to the many private donors.

The Laker desk at Gatwick Airport has also been inundated with offers of money, all of which have been referred to Mrs Hardy. Although no decision has been made about the use to which the money collected will be put, the organizers are adamant that it will not find its way into the hands of the receiver. Mr Ron Winter, another of the founders, said: "If we cannot collect enough to keep the show on the road, there is no reason why the money cannot be given to Laker to set up another business, with no strings attached."

Mrs Hardy is to meet Mr Brown to discuss his plans for a bid after hearing the advice of her bank manager. Mr Brown said yesterday: "This is a serious bid to buy Laker Airways on behalf of the British people and have Freddie Laker running his company. A lot of people who have taken advantage of cheap air travel owe him something and want to show it in cash."

Receiver lists the signs of a collapse

He is not sure how much of the company the public could acquire but would like to see Laker continue to fly the Atlantic. Any donations would be considered as interest-free loans and could be converted into shares at a later stage.

Mr Brown said he had been approached by a number of businessmen with millions of pounds to invest, but he wanted to "buy Laker for the man in the street".

"We have to beat the sharks to the crunch. Whatever happens, Laker is going to be back in the air", Mr Brown said. He likened the company's collapse to Dunkirk for the British economy.

"If the British public can make a stand against the recession by taking Laker off the floor and putting him back in the air, we could see that confidence permeate back through the economy and the city".

Mr Colin Raworth, a West London shopkeeper, has also received promises of more than £100,000 since he launched his "Save Freddie Laker Fund" on Friday. He said: "I am paying all my own expenses incurred so that every penny collected can be used for the sole purpose of getting Sir Freddie Laker back in business. The Government and City say they cannot help him, so why not let the public have a chance to show how they care?"

Sir Freddie Lakers metallic gold Rolls-Royce, with its FAL 1 number plate, his knighthood and his strike-free and contented work force were all among signs that an operation such as Laker Airways could collapse.

Such signs, along with serious ones including declining turnover or boardroom strife, are indicative of impending financial gloom, according to Mr Bill Mackey, the receiver called in by Laker's.

Writing in a book called *Managing for Profit*, published last Friday by McGraw Hill, Mr Mackey gives his own list of warning signs: "Rolls-Royces with personalised number plates; a fountain in the reception area; a flag pole; the Queen's Award for Industry (United Kingdom companies only); a chairman who is honoured for services to industry—ever industry but his own; a salesman or engineer as chief executive; a recent move into modern offices".

Mr Mackey said yesterday that he knew nothing about Sir Freddie's personal assets.

Sir Freddie is undoubtedly a very wealthy man. He lives at Chailey, near Lewes in Sussex, in a house which has 100 acres of land, six bedrooms and a swimming pool. He runs Woodcote Stud Farm, near Epsom Downs, where he keeps 24 race horses, some of them with names such as Take a Laker. He also owns a large farm at West Horsley, near Guildford, and an 85-ton yacht, Tutinella, which is permanently based in the Mediterranean and frequently employed as a floating conference room.

Anger in council at failed firm

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

A dispute is expected today at the meeting of the West Midlands County Council about a company which sought the investment of pension fund and ratepayers' money but has now gone into liquidation.

Mr Alan Hope, the leader of the Conservative group on the council, said yesterday that Mr Geoffrey Edge, the Labour chairman of the council's economic development committee and a former MP, had "a lot to answer for".

Fastbac Research Ltd of Willenhall, West Midlands, was to have been the first company to be helped by the county's economic development unit, which was set up by Labour when it regained control last May. The unit intended to be a member of a consortium to produce an industrial adhesive which the company had developed but for which it has since agreed it does not have a British patent.

A confidential report by consultants commissioned by the unit had said that £620,000 would be required to restart the company. The county council's pension fund, which covers 63,000 local government workers in the region, has asked Mr Edge for a report on the names of Fastbac's creditors.

Mr Raymond Bennett, managing director of Fastbac, said: "As a result of the recent adverse publicity surrounding the company's endeavours to complete its negotiations with a consortium involving West Midlands County Council's economic development unit, which would have secured long-term growth and created new jobs, the directors have been left with no alternative but to formally request that these negotiations be terminated.

"In order to allow an already formed consortium to obtain the assignment of the process under discussion, the directors have requested that its bankers should appoint a liquidator

Science report

Hope of a cure for lead poison in swans

By Tony Samstag

A young veterinary surgeon believes he has found a cure for lead poisoning in swans. His unpublished and unconfirmed findings could halt the decline of the mute swan on such rivers as the Thames, Avon and Trent.

Mr S. W. Cooke says that of 78 birds treated with a combination of three drugs, 64 have been symptomatically cured, a success rate of 82 per cent. Those released have shown no tendency to relapse.

In a letter last year to the *Veterinary Record*, Mr Cooke, who practises in Bracknell, Berkshire, offered a preliminary description of his treatment, a form of chelation therapy based on established treatment of lead poisoning in children. He described a five-day course of the injectible chelants sodium calcium edetate and dimercaprol followed by a course of the oral drug d-penicillamine, the duration of which depends on the individual's response and history of exposure to lead.

The Greek and Latin antecedents of the word chelation mean claw; the English word refers to the action of the medicines in bonding with the heavy metal ions, which are, in effect, leached from the affected tissues and excreted.

The full course for a severely affected bird takes one to three months at a cost of about £40 per month. During that period a low-fibre diet is supplemented with a mineral mixture containing calcium and iron, routine antibiotic and vitamin injections, and often tube-feeding with a convalescent milk-based mixture such as Complan.

The treatment is nothing if not labour-intensive: Mr Cooke emphasizes the need for intelligent and diligent nursing, with regular massage to break down the impaction of fibrous food in the gizzard.

Mr Cooke concludes: "In the past many swans, geese and ducks suffering from lead poisoning have been destroyed because there has been no acceptable therapy available to treat them. I feel that we can now fill this gap in our therapeutic armoury".

About 60 of the birds successfully treated by Mr Cooke are to be released at a swan sanctuary in Norfolk in the spring.

Cuts may close art gallery

By a Staff Reporter

One of Britain's most important regional galleries, Manchester City Art Gallery, is threatened with closure under proposals drawn up by council officials to meet the latest round of spending cuts. If implemented it would mean the collection of 7,000 oils, watercolours and drawings, plus its silver, pottery arms and clothing going into storage.

Mr Timothy Clifford, the director, said yesterday: "I am feeling stupefied and horrified. We have gradually been run down over the last three years and already all five of our branch galleries are closed. There is not much left to shut down."

Manchester City Council has instructed officials to draw up options to meet cuts in the arts

The cuts must come from the art gallery, the 25 branch libraries and central reference library, two municipal theatres and one repertory company. Councillors are unwilling to let the full force of the cuts fall on the libraries because library use has been increased by 75 per cent in four years and they have no statutory duty to run the art gallery.

Shutting the two theatres would, on its own, only produce about half the money needed and the options for partial or total closure of the gallery will be considered by the Labour-controlled council's cultural services committee shortly.

Mr Clifford said he was concerned that the proposals would jeopardize gifts to the gallery and would adversely influence the Government when allocating works of art accepted in lieu of taxes.

Mr George Levy, chairman of the Friends of Kenwood House, Hampstead, north London, which was threatened recently when the Greater London Council proposed to sell its collection, deplored the proposal. "Closing museums had reached epidemic proportions among local authorities, he said.

"It is quite unbelievable that Manchester should even consider doing such a thing. Manchester is an outstanding museum, one of the best in the region, and has done tremendous work. It should not be a question of either the libraries or the gallery. It is a service to the public and part of the cultural life of England."

MILITANT FACES REJECTION

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Benjamin Ford, Labour MP for Bradford, North, is expected to win an appeal against the selection of a Militant Tendency supporter as a replacement Labour candidate for his seat at the next general election.

An internal party report, to be submitted to a meeting of the party national executive's organization committee this afternoon, recommends that the replacement candidate, Mr Patrick Wall, should not be endorsed because of serious doubts over his selection last October.

Three specific complaints arising from that selection conference have been upheld by Mr Walter Brown, the party's assistant national agent, in a confidential report to the national executive. Doubts have been raised, and confirmed, over the entitlement of some of the selection conference delegates to attend the meeting.

The report says that one councillor at the meeting was not a paid up member of the party until last December.

The organizers of the selection conference also failed to give the required seven days' notice of the meeting, and the hall was inadequate because a noisy dance band was practicing in a room above.

It is highly unlikely that the technical recommendation of the report will meet with any resistance from the Labour left on the executive; Mr Wall will be entitled to put his name forward again as a challenger to Mr Ford at a recalled selection conference.

Text of lead risk letter

The text of the letter sent on March 6 last year to Sir James Hamilton, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Education and Science, by Sir Henry Yellowlees, Chief Medical Officer at the Department of Health and Social Security is as follows:

I am taking the unusual step of writing to you about this matter which is to come before the E(EA) Committee next week because the educational implications seem to me to be potentially important to DES.

It has been known for many years that lead is a hazard to health and the signs of overt lead poisoning—plumbism—are known to every medical student. More recently disquiet has grown that lead at comparatively low blood levels which are insufficient to give rise to obvious signs of lead poisoning may cause central nervous system damage to the population at large and particularly to children, with resulting minor intellectual deficits and minor behavioural disorders.

Although a good deal of environmental action has already been taken to reduce exposure to lead, it was decided to set up a working party under the chairmanship of Professor Pat Lawther to assess the situation, especially with regard to children in whom low levels of exposure to lead had been detected.

The Report of the Lawther Working Party was published in March 1980 and it was clear that at that time they were not convinced of the harm done by lead at low blood levels but they considered that at intermediate blood levels the risks could certainly not be discounted. Nevertheless because of the general uncertainty the Working Party recommended that the Government should take a number of measures to reduce population exposure to the metal. Further research into the problem was known to be in the pipeline and was recommended to be continued and increased.

Some of the recommendations are uncontroversial, but on one important matter—that of lead in petrol—officials from several departments involved have been unable to reach agreement and a comprehensive report will go on Monday next to E(EA) Committee of the Cabinet having this major item for ministerial resolution. There is no doubt that the simplest and quickest way of reducing general population exposure to lead is by reducing sharply or by entirely eliminating lead in petrol. The Environment Departments, Health Departments and Ministry of Transport are recommending a very considerable reduction of lead in petrol, but this is opposed by the Department of Energy and the Treasury on economic grounds.

I must now make my own position clear. A year ago when the Lawther report was published there was a degree of uncertainty, but since then further evidence has accrued which though not in itself wholly conclusive, nevertheless strongly supports the view that:

(a) Even at low blood levels there is a negative correlation between blood lead level and IQ of which the simplest explanation is that the lead produces these effects;

(b) Lead in petrol is a major contributor to blood lead acting through the food chain as well as by inhalation.

Further research is being mounted but we are dealing here with the biological sciences where truly conclusive evidence may be unobtainable and it is therefore doubtful whether there is anything to be gained by deferring a decision until the results of further research become available.

There is a strong likelihood that lead in petrol is permanently reducing the IQ of many of our children. Although the reduction amounts to only a few percentage points, some hundreds of thousands of children are affected and as Chief Medical Officer I have advised by Secretary of State that action should now be taken to reduce markedly the lead content of petrol in use in the United Kingdom.

The risk to children is now shown to be too great for me to take any other course and I am therefore conveying this advice to you as Permanent Secretary in DES and I am copying the letter to the Permanent Secretaries at the Home Office and the Department of the Environment being other Government departments to which I owe responsibility.

You will know that several other major industrial nations faced with similar problems have opted for a lead-free petrol or for petrol with a very low lead level despite the substantial costs and the energy penalties so incurred.

I regard this as a very serious issue on which I should give you my opinion as Chief Medical Officer.

Diary, page 8
Des Wilson, page 8

FitzGerald pledges new laws

From Richard Ford, Newbridge, co Kildare

Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, pledged at an election meeting on Saturday to end partitionist laws and attitudes. The republic had created a society that was in many ways alien to the majority in Northern Ireland, he said.

But Dr FitzGerald, in impassioned remarks made at the end of his speech, said that his party was committed to unity by consent. Although both he and Mr Charles Haughey, leader of Fianna Fáil, are agreed that North ern Ireland will not be a central issue in the campaign, the Prime Minister is to make a speech on his constitutional crusade closer to polling day.

Canvassers have reported almost no public interest in the Ulster issue. An opinion poll published yesterday showed that only 1 per cent spontaneously identified it as being important, interest rising to 3.27 on a scale of 5 when people were prompted

Dr FitzGerald, leader of Fine Gael, acknowledged the lack of interest when he told his audience in Newbridge that the problem of the north did not loom large enough in people's thoughts. There was ambivalence in the minds of many who say they want a united Ireland but flinch from what that would involve, from the changes that have to be made to bring it about".

Speaking on the eve of an opinion poll in the *Sunday Independent* that showed the opposition running neck and neck with Fianna Fail, he said his party had moved away from the ancient cry, "Give us back our country", which seemed to imply that a colony had been taken away.

The minority community in Northern Ireland saw that his party was prepared to do something about the problem. It had opened up lines of communication with both the majority and minority and that had produced results that were fermenting beneath the surface.

"We have created a society based on partition in the past

IRISH ELECTION



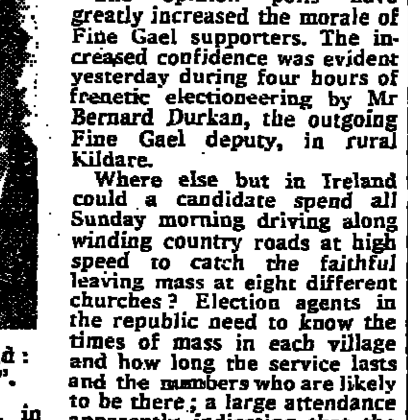
Dr Garret FitzGerald: "Minds must change".

60 years which to them, in many respects, is alien. We have to create a pluralist society. In many ways we have had a comfortable society, we have got used to our cosy situation, we have got used to running the 26 counties in a partitionist way."

Partition was not caused only by the British but by the republic's continuing attitudes of partition. Those had to be undone in minds and in laws so that the two parts of Ireland could come together again.

With the campaign into its second half, the next 10 days will see the leading parties attempt to open a convincing lead. Today's unemployment figures are expected to show a further increase, to between 147,000 and 148,000.

Later in the week the opposition, having revised its original strategy and accepted the coalition's planned reduction in the budget deficit to £715m, will announce details of its own fiscal proposals. At the end of the week there is expected to be a face-to-face



debate between Dr FitzGerald and Mr Haughey, which could prove crucial.

The latest opinion poll shows that Dr FitzGerald has opened a big personal lead over his rival, with 55 per cent of voters finding him an acceptable leader, only 25 per cent opting for Mr Haughey.

The opinion polls have greatly increased the morale of Fine Gael supporters. The increased confidence was evident yesterday during four hours of frenetic electioneering by Mr Bernard Durkan, the outgoing Fine Gael deputy, in rural Kildare.

Where else but in Ireland could a candidate spend all Sunday morning driving along winding country roads at high speed to catch the faithful leaving mass at eight different churches? Election agents in the republic need to know the times of mass in each village and how long the service lasts and the numbers who are likely to be there; a large attendance apparently indicating that the priest keeps everything as short as possible.

□ The Provisional IRA and the Irish National Liberation Army are reorganizing their command and control structures after a week of spectacular successes by security forces on both sides of the border (Tim Jones writes from Belfast). One source said in Belfast last night: "Only fools would write off the IRA but it seems their capacity to wage war is at its lowest ebb for many years".

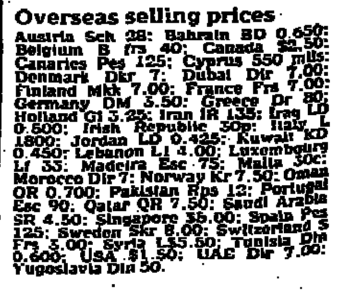
More than 40 people suspected of what the police described as "serious terrorist offences" are being questioned after dawn raids on republican areas throughout the province over the weekend.

Police sources say the arrests follow sustained undercover work. But there is a strong suspicion that much of the information has come from a "supergrass". He is believed to be a former commander of the Provisional battalion of the IRA in the Markets area of Belfast.

WHITELAW SEEKS POLICE REFORMS

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary said yesterday he wanted voluntary arrangements set up "in the immediate future" to enable chief police officers to consult local community representatives on police procedures and practices.

Mr Whitelaw said on the BBC radio programme *The World This Weekend* that he also intended to proceed with legislation, but that could not be prepared before the next parliamentary session.



Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 28: Bahrain BD 0.650: Belgium B frs 40: Canada $2.50: Canaries Pes 125: Cyprus 550 mils: Denmark Dkr 7: Dubai Dir 7.00: Finland Mkk 7.00: France Frs 7.00: Germany DM 3.50: Greece Dr 80: Holland Gl 3.25: Iran IR 135: Iraq LD 0.500: Irish Republic 30p: Italy L 1800: Jordan LD 0.425: Kuwait KD 0.450: Lebanon LI 4.00: Luxembourg Lf 35: Madeira Esc 75: Malta 30c: Morocco Dir 7: Norway Kr 7.50: Oman OR 0.700: Pakistan Rps 13: Portugal Esc 90: Qatar QR 7.50: Saudi Arabia SR 4.50: Singapore $5.00: Spain Pes 125: Sweden Skr 8.00: Switzerland S Frs 3.00: Syria L$5.50: Tunisia Din 0.600: USA $1.50: UAE Dir 7.00: Yugoslavia Din 50.

CRE instructs companies not to discriminate

By Lucy Hodges

The Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) has issued formal notices against six organizations, including Massey Ferguson, Rank Leisure Services and the Prestige Group, instructing them not to discriminate. The six organizations under investigation are, in turn, taking the commission to court to challenge the non-discrimination notices issued against them.

These details are given in a confidential 17-page memorandum which the CRE has sent to the Home Office and which amounts to a strong rebuttal of much of a report by an all-party of MPs last year, which was strongly critical of the commission. In its report, the Commons Home Affairs Committee was scathing about the commission's work on formal investigations into organizations for possible racial discrimination, accusing it of chasing "small fry" and of being slow to complete its reports.

In its formal response to the Home Office the commission accepts some of the criticism and says it is carrying out another review into procedures as a result of the report. But it points out that delay are caused by companies or other bodies it is investigating who then sue the CRE.

The Birmingham Area Health Authority is also appealing against a non-discrimination notice issued by the commission in the course of a formal investigation.

The CRE's greatest blow in the courts came last year in a case brought by Hillingdon council in west London which was upheld by Lord Denning. It has meant that the commission has had to stop seven of its investigations and resume with new terms of reference.

The inquiries it is having to restart include one into the allocation of council housing by Walsall council, West Midlands, another into the employment of dustmen by Westminster council and a third into employment by Kirklees council, West Yorkshire.

In its paper to the Home Office the commission says that in more than five years in existence, it has published reports on 13 investigations and completed inquiries into 17 more. The select committee said the commission had finished only 10 out of 45 investigations by last spring.

The CRE rehearses many of the objections which it made when the MPs' report was published in December. It is understood that Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, shares some of the commission's views and last week made it clear to a delegation of senior trade unionists that aspects of the report were "unfairly critical" of the commission.

Senior CRE officials believe the Home Office will not accept the MPs' recommendations on the ending of the posts of deputy chairman and chief executive, now filled by blacks, of that the commission should be shorn of its grant-giving powers.

The commission has told the Home Office that the select committee completely misunderstood some aspects of its work, particularly the relationship between law enforcement and the promotion of good race relations.

It says that if its promotional work was confined solely to matters arising directly out of investigations, as the committee proposed, it would be neglecting an important duty imposed on it by the Race Relations Act. It would, for example, not be able to undertake the work it does with the police, education authorities and business organizations.

Record sum given to renovate theatre

By Christopher Warman
Arts Correspondent

A grant of £600,000 over the next five years is to be made to the Grand Theatre, Swansea, by the Arts Council towards the cost of improving facilities. That is the largest grant made by the council under its Housing the Arts scheme and is one of a series being given to help to renovate regional theatres.

Already the council has given £450,000 to the Palace Theatre, Manchester, and £500,000 to the Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

Apart from the New Theatre, Cardiff, the Grand at Swansea, is the only theatre in Wales capable of housing medium and large scale touring productions and it has serious difficulties both backstage and front of house which inhibit its development to its full potential.

The council said the theatre's improvement scheme was expected to take about ten years and cost more than £5m. The grant is specifically for the early phases of the scheme including the reconstruction of the stage, construction of a new theatre entrance and of bars and restaurants.

The theatre is visited by the Welsh National Opera and runs a full programme of subsidized drama, opera and dance as well as commercial entertainment. It is expected that after the redevelopment the theatre will see more of the Welsh National Opera as well as tours from other companies.

Sir Hywel Evans, chairman of the Welsh Arts Council through which the grant is being made to Swansea City Council who own and run the theatre, said: "This is the largest sum ever awarded by the council for a theatre development and reflects the importance which we attach to responding to Swansea's initiative in the arts".



All quiet on the western line: Mr Arthur Nayler and his wife, Unna, who live in the closed station at Little Kimble, on the still used London-Aylesbury route, enjoying the peace of a strike.

Miles of woodlands go quietly for sale

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

More than a hundred woodlands, with a combined area of almost 20 square miles, have quietly been put up for sale since the Government began its sale of Forestry Commission land last November. Very few of the woods have been advertised and only seven lots have so far been sold on the open market, though the Government and the commission refuse to name prices and buyers.

The seven include almost four square miles of Lochar Moss, forest with commercial peat extraction, in Dumfries and Galloway. That was bought by a single purchaser and represents the Government's most successful effort so far at raising money by selling state forest land.

The sale of the two-square-mile Stang Forest, in co Durham, collapsed last year after the Forestry Commission believed that it had been concluded. The commission hopes that it will succeed in selling the property this year.

The compaign to raise £10m a year by selling woods owned by the commission has been condemned by the Labour movement as proceeding for monetarist reasons without heed to the needs of the forestry industry. Ministers see it as a means of reducing the burden of state forestry on public funds.

More than 20 woodlands, with a combined area of about five square miles, have been sold back to the private landowners from whom the commission bought them. Some of those lots have not been advertised on the open market.

The commission has agreed not to sell woods of exceptional scenic and scientific interest without first consulting government and voluntary conservation bodies. But a transfer of woodland to a state body such as the Nature Conservancy Council would not raise money, while some regional naturalists' societies cannot afford to buy.

Nevertheless, the National Trust has bought more than 200 acres of woodland in Somerset from the commission, to prevent it from being used by an investor purely as a source of commercial timber.

Over-busy pub sells pasties at its peril

From Our Correspondent
Exeter

The landlord of the Royal Oak at Meavy on Dartmoor has been told to cut his trade, because he is too successful. Burrator Parish Council, which owns the inn, has given Mr John Shortridge a listof measures for reducing business before his lease can be renewed, because some locall people have complained about the level of activity.

Mr Shortridge said: "It is silly. The council are cutting their own throats because the more cash we take over the bar the more rent is paid to them.

"The Royal Oak is no exception to other pubs. We have very quiet times, especially during the winter. We have six hectic weeks in the summer but I would not call that over-successful. It is just one or two residents complaining."

The Parish Council's recommendations are: To serve west Country pasties only between May and October; to stop Mrs Des Shortridge from putting hera food on sale to customers; to ban the landlord from playing instruments other than piano; to stop people sitting outside the public house by removing the chairs; and to force customers to drink only inside the building.

Mr Shortridge said: "I have told the council in no uncertain terms I will not run the pub's trade down.

Mr Nicholas Waterhouse, one of the parish councillors, said: "The proposals are long-term measures designed to reduce the present gross over-trading at the inn".

☐ The rates in Horbling, Lincolnshire are going down because they are being offset by most of the annual rental from the Plough Inn, which is owned by the parish council. It will serve the 420 population an average of £6 a head (Our Peterborough Correspondent writes).

Research council cuts: 1

Unseen effect of cash pruning

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

More than a year ago Mrs Margaret Thatcher proudly told an all-party parliamentary and scientific committee that the Government's spending on research was "protected" from the round of public spending cuts. Today, research workers in universities say subsequent actions suggest she has renegued on that commitment.

The issue is rapidly coming to a head in the wake of cutbacks made by the Universities Grant Committee. Those cuts have mostly been discussed in terms of the impact on the numbers of students and academic staff. The effect the cuts have in undermining research has received less attention.

Reserch in universities is only 14 per cent of the toal money spent by the Government on research. More than £3,500m of government money was divided between research on defence (£200m); to promote industrial growth (£118m); on health (£50m); and on other activities like energy communications and public transport.

The amount devoted directly to pure research in universities was about £200m last year. The money comes from the £478m allocated through Parliament as the Science Vote. That is shared between five research councils; the Science and Engineering Research Council, Natural Environment Research Council, Medical Research Council, Agricultural Research Council and the Social Sciences Research Council.

There are marked differences in the way each council is suffering from the economic squeeze. The science and engineering, natural environment and medical reasearch coumcils are vulnerable for special reason, even though their budget allocations have at least been held static. The grants those organizations award to university scientists are only part of the research story. Academic research in Britain relies on a unique scheme known as the dual support system.

Under that arrangement, universities are expected to provide from general funds, coming from the University Grants Committee, an equipment grant for the "floor" of research facilities. That means, literally, the floor space and essential laboratory apparatus needed. The research councils prode the money for specific projects.

Between the two, academics should have the conditions to teach well and conduct first class research. But before the cuts, the equipment grant had fallen below the figure needed by university departments for servicing vital apparatus such as electron microscopes and computers.

Expressing the anxiety of academic research workers, Sir Andrew Huxley, president of the Royal Society, says the dual support system, envied in other countries, had been reduced to a shadow. It was in danger of being obliterated by the cuts in university finance, he claimed.

Sir Andrew recognised that there was scope for rationalization within universities, and that the University Grants Committee's recommendations to individual universities on cuts were to encourage a more efficient use of resources. However, had the grants committee gone further, taking the decisions where to make cuts out of the hands of the universities, there would have been protests at the infringement of the universities' independence, Sir Andrew argued.

Sir Andrew said there was a danger to scientific research in that raiding departmental grants was an easy way of avoiding, or reducing the number of, compulsory terminations of employment.

Tomorrow: Medical research

Council house subsidies fall as rents increase

By David Walker.

Housing figures published today show that the Government is succeeding in its policy of cutting general subsidies for council housing and moving to special rebates for poorer tenants.

Overall subsidies to council housing in England and Wales have fallen by nearly a third, measured in cash, between 1980-81 and 1981-82. Council rents have increased during the same period by nearly a half.

According to calculations by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, a professional body on which the Government often relies for estimates of local spending, public spending on rent rebates to council tenants could have increased by as much as four-fifths.

The calculations are complex because some rebates are paid by the Department of the Environment, some from the rates and some from the social security system administered by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Those changes in the balance between general subsidies and special rebates are in line with the Housing Act, 1980, and will probably continue through 1982-83. Council rents are due to rise by at least £2.50 a week on average on April 1.

Council house rents still only cover on average two-thirds of the full cost of public spending on each dwelling. The table shows the relationship during 1981-82 of the gross amount received by councils in rent and the cost of management and maintenance. Total cost includes interest charges on loans which average £11.38 a week for each council dwelling in England and Wales.

	Gross Rent (£)	Management and maintenance	Total Cost
London boroughs	12.67	10.83	30.55
GLC	14.65	11.36	61.41
Metro districts	10.26	5.31	14.97
Non-metro districts (England)	11.36	5.67	15.33
All England and Wales	11.48	8.44	18.36

Some local authorities cushion their tenants against the impact of the Government's policy of high rents. Chartered Institute's latest figures show that the London boroughs increased their rates subsidy to rents by 10 per cent between 1980-81 and 1982-83. Ratepayers pay for only about 1 per cent of total housing spending by councils in the English shires; but in London 20 per cent of total costs come from the rates.

There are now 5,200,000m dwellings in local authority ownership in England and Wales plus another 100,000 owned by the new town corporations. The average cost to councils of providing a dwelling in 1981-82 is £18.36 a week, of which £11.48 comes from the rent paid by tenants.

Housing Revenue Account Statistics 1981-82 estimates. CIPFA, 1 Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6HS, £12.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Seamen's health survey

A large-scale study of the health of crews working on merchant ships has been commissioned by British shipowners in cooperation with seafarers' unions (Our Labour Editor writes). The survey, to be carried out by the TUC Centenary Institute of Occupational Health, has been prompted by statistics suggesting that seafarers may be more vulnerable to illness and early death than people in many other occupations.

About one in 50 of Britain's 60,000 merchant seamen and officers will be asked to fill in a questionnaire and undergo a physical examination. The results will be compared with known statistics for the general population.

Pensioners are led to safety

More than 50 pensioners were led to safety when fire broke out at an old people's home in Halesowen, Birmingham, yesterday. No one was hurt, but some people had to spend the rest of the night on makeshift mattresses as firemen damped down the roof blaze, believed to have been caused by a fault in the heating system. The home was not badly damaged.

Deng's departure raises fears for China's future

From David Bonavia, Peking, Feb 7

The disclosure that Mr Deng Xiaoping will no longer take an active role in the day-to-day administration of China has caused surprise and even shock among observers of Chinese affairs and raised grave concern about the country's future.

Mr Deng, the leading vice-chairman of the Communist Party, has been in control of party and government affairs since his political rehabilitation in 1973 apart from a one-year period of disgrace during and after the final ascendancy of the leftist "Gang of Four" led by Jiang Qing,, widow of Mao Tse-tung.

Mr Wan Li, a Deputy Prime Minister, considered close to Mr Deng, told a delegation from Reuters news agency that he was in southern China, resting. However, Foreign Ministry officials vehemently denied reports that he was in poor health.

Mr Deng's personal prestige, experience and authority are considered to have been the crucial factor in maintaining national unity in recent years, in the face of some highly divisive issues.

Mr Deng's last known statement on the question of his retirement was that he would remain in office until 1985 then seek an advisory role. There is no explanation as to why he should have decided to limit his own functions three years ahead of time.

His chief Protégés — Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, and Mr Hu Yaobang, the party chairman, though experienced asministrators, have nothing approaching his record as a revolutionary, military commander, statesman and eventually opponent of Mao.

Last year, together with several other leaders, Mr Deng resigned his post of Deputy Prime Minister, but this was seen as a measure of his real strength rather than as any erosion of it. The latest change in his status inevitably awakens suspicions that he has been forced out of effective office by concerted opposition to his policies. If so, the prognosis for China's future is grave.

Of late, opposition to Mr Deng's liberalizing policies has been growing among the senior armed forces commanders and the bureaucratic machine of the Government and Communist Party. But it was thought he would reduce or neutralize such opposition this year by a determined purge of the party and by conciliatory gestures towards the military.

Many of the senior armed forces commanders have resented his moves to discredit Mao's policies during the last two decades of his life. The Army has also objected to Mr Deng's liberalization of rural life and virtual dismantling of the communes, with the aim of quickly raising the peasants' living standards. This has made it more difficultto find new recruits in the rural areas.

Even more annoying, from the Army commanders' point of view, was the series of attacks on corruption and abuse of privilege by some of them, which surfaced in new literary works, including some written by serving officers.

Another source of opposition to Mr Deng's policies has been a group of ministers in the State Council. They are reported to have been dismayed by Mr Deng's go-slow on development of onshore oilfields pending the exploitation of newly surveyed deposits in the South and East China seas.

Other ministers are thought to disagree with the current "economic readjustment" which has meant drastically curtailing heavy industry in the interests of developing textile and light industries to raise living standards.

But Mr Deng's main battle has been with the entrenched bureaucracy at the upper and middle levels which, jealous of its privileges, has refused to put its back into the implementation of the new, right-leaning policies, for fear that they will be blamed if there is another leftward shift.

Glemp urges voice for Solidarity

Rome, Feb 7. — Archbishop Jozef Glemp, the Roman Catholic primate of Poland, said today that Solidarity should be included in efforts to achieve reconciliation in his country.

Archbishop Glemp, in Rome for his first meeting with the Pope since martial law was declared in Poland, preached to the Polish community in the ancient church of St Stanislaus. "Rage is the worst disease now afflicting our homeland," he said. "The Church is bent on its knees in front of a suffering society ... and recommends love as the only medicine."

He added: "We must find an accord so that Poland again becomes the homeland of all Poles."

During the Mass, the congregation sang hymns and popular Polish songs and Archbishop Glemp asked them to pray for interned members of Solidarity and their families. Solidarity should have a place alongside the Church in negotiations with the military rulers in Warsaw, he said.

Since the proclamation of martial law the Archbishop has been involved in mediation efforts between Poland's military rulers and Mr Lech Walesa, the detained Solidarity leader.

Appealing for tolerance, the Archbishop said: "Poland must not become an arena for bloody confrontations." But he made no reference to his meetings with the Pope, who today refrained from making any comments on the Polish crisis at his traditional Sunday blessing. — Reuter.

☐ Warsaw: The Polish Communist Party said today it was finding it hard to woo back workers and intellectuals who deserted it during the confrontation with Solidarity. (Reuter reports). Mr Wlodzimierz Mokrzyszczak a secretary of the party's Central Committee, reported that membership had dropped by 500,000 to 2.6 million since last July.

The loss was due to resignations and a purge of inefficient and discredited members, he told the official PAP news agency.

The party, thrust into the background by martial law, is in the midst of a drive to win back disillusioned members and rebuild public credibility. The official said resistance to its efforts to reassert itself was strongest in factories, where Solidarity had powerful support, and among intellectuals.

The party was still being purged at all levels but the pace of resignations had not increased since the military take-over in december. Intellectuals and workers who left to join Solidarity should be encouraged to return but no leniency should be shown to enemies of Marxism, Mr Mokrzyszczak added.

Battle lines drawn for Madrid talks

From Harry Debelius Madrid, Feb 7.

The foreign ministers of at least 20 countries began gathering here today for a verbal battle — with the Soviet and Polish Governments as the principal targets — that could turn the hundredth session of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe into the final session.

The first plenary session after a winter recess will be presided over on Tuesday by Jozef Wiesacz, the Polish Deputy Foreign Minister, who is said to have issued a warning before leaving Warsaw that his country "will not take part in the Madrid conference if it is relegated to the rule of defendant".

The Polish and Soviet Governments are expected to be accused by Western nations of violating the 1975 Helsinki agreements, which it is the task of the present conference to review and expand.

The fact that most of the 35 participating countries will be represented by their foreign ministers, rather than by normal heads of delegation, suggests the importance that their governments attach to the meeting at this time, after 15 months of debate with little progress.

The positions of the various Western delegations range from the tough stance of Mr Alexander Haig the United States Secretary of State, who recently informed Nato allies that he favours suspending the conference until next autumn as a sign of protest over Poland, to the more concilitory attitude of Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister, who advocates a recess as a period of reflection, but only after two or three weeks' more discussion in Madrid.

The possibility exists of next Tuesday's debate ending in a total breakdown of the conference. Since a severe confrontation between East and West could make it impossible to achieve the consensus needed to continue the meeting. Most observers of the conference, however, consider this unlikely as both East and West are interested in continuing the Helsinki process, even if for different reasons.

The Soviet Union needs it to win approval to bring all 35 nations together for a disamament conference, and the West needs it to bring pressure on the signatories.



Mubarak sees role for Europe

By Edward Mortimer

"My name is Hosni Mubarak." These were not the first but the last words of the Egyptian President's short press conference at London airport yesterday morning. They were perhaps also the most significant, coming as they did in reply to the question, "In what way do you have any different substance, any different policy from your predecessor, if any?"

The answer, delivered with a broad grin, was — like most of those that preceded it — brilliantly evasive. Taken literally, it could mean that nothing in Egypt has changed except the name of the man at the top. But no one in the room took it like that. Here, we all felt, was a president who would certainly not commit the lapse of taste of criticizing his murdered predecessor, but who was very definitely his own man and happy to be seen as such.

Mr Mubarak had had lunch with Mrs Thatcher at Chequers on Saturday. He had called in Britain on his way home from Washington, and was leaving for Bonn, to meet Herr Schmidt, the West Gernan Chancellor. (On the Outward journey he had stopped in Rome and Paris.) The Europeans, he said had "a very strong role to play in achieving a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, through their influence on the United States and on Israel.

Did he mean we should put pressure on those countries? "I'm not speaking at all about pressures . . . Understanding, discussing this with their friends the Israelis, and also with the United States — it would be a good support to the comprehensive settlement."

Mr Mubarak repeated his view, already voiced in Washington, that the Americans should start a dialogue with the Palestinians.

Did he see the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinians? "It was so registered according to the Rabat summit, but still there are differences between them all." The Americans should start a dialogue with whichever Palestinians were moderate enough to be willing to hold one.

Mr Mubarak was also asked whether he could envisage any action by Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, that would force him to interrupt the peace process. He replied by emphasizing that withdrawal from Sinai was "a commitment on the Israeli side" and that he was "sure whenever they sign a document they respect it".

Cell death starts biggest outcry since Biko

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Feb 7

South African opposition politicians, backed by trade unionists and leading businessmen, have called for a full official inquiry into the death of Dr Neil Aggett, the 28-year-old trade union leader found hanged in his cell at security police headquarters in Johannesburg.

The police claim Dr Aggett hanged himself but his death has set off a political and legal storm about the conditions in which prisoners are held for interrogation without trial for months under South Africa's rigorous and all-embracing security laws.

His death has already caused the biggest outcry since that of the Black consciousness leader Steve Biko, who died in 1977 from injuries sustained at security police offices in Port Elizabeth.

The fullest statement from the authorities on Dr Aggett's death was given yesterday by Lieutenant-General Johann Coetzee, the Deputy Commissioner of Police and chief of security branch, who said Dr Aggett was found hanging from an iron grille behind his cell door by a piece of clothing wound round his neck.

Lieutenant-General Coetzee claimed that Dr Aggett had been visited by a police sergeant every half hour last Thursday night and Friday morning: "When he visited him at 1 am on Friday, the sergeant unlocked the door. Behind the door there is a grille to prevent attacks on cell staff.

The sergeant saw Dr Aggett lying on his bed and apparently in ggod health. However, when he returned at 1.30 am and unlocked the door, he found Dr Aggett dead, hanging from the grille."

Lieutenant-General Coetzee also disclosed that Dr Aggett had left a unfinished statement

Dr Aggett was being held under section 6 of the Terrorism Act, under which a suspect can be held indefinitely in solitary confinement without trial. Professor John Dugard, the director of the Centre of Applied Legal Studies at the University of Witwatersrand, today called for a formal investigation into mounting evidence that "Section 6 produces an environment of intimidation tantamount to torture".

Pyke blames man with grudge for his ordeal

Schiphol, Holland, Feb 7. — Mr Andrew Pyke the British businessman freed by Iran, has said, that false accusations by a would-be employee with a grudge led to his 518-day ordeal in a Tehran jail. "He made unpleasant accusations . . . that I was a spy. I am not a spy", Mr Pyke said on arrival in the Netherlands.

Mr Pyke, who managed an Iranian-Dutch firm operating helicopters for the oil industry, was arrested at Tehran airport as he was about to leave Iran in August, 1980. He was released from jail 10 days ago.

Yesterday he reacted angrily to a barrage of questions from reporters as he and his smiling Dutch-born wife Tileke were taken by Dutch colleagues and airport officials to a reunion at the airport with friends. "I've been in prison for a year and a half. Leave me alone", he shouted at journalists.

After the reunion he apologized to the press and, walking to a news conference surrounded by Dutch policemen, said: "The last guys I was with like this had green jackets, berets and machine guns."

Looking drawn but very happy, Mr Pyke said that after investigations a religious judge said he had no case to answer. He was initially held on spying charges but Iranian officials said later they were investigating financial matters. He said he did not plan to go back to Iran.

Replying to questions, he said he knew of six American prisoners being held in Iran, adding that he knew one of them very well. During his captivity he was allowed books and exercise but spent a brief time in solitary confinement. He was kept in three jails and sometimes slept on the floor of his cell, he said.

He said he had felt despair, particularly when three British missionaries were freed last year. "I thought I was going with them, I fell through a hole in the floor when I heard I wasn't." But he never felt that his life was in danger although he stayed in Iran's Evin prison knowing that executions were taking place there all the time.

Mr Pyke thanked the 10,000 British people who sent him Christmas cards for their moral support and the British diplomats who negotiated for his freedom.

He and his wife were driven away to an undisclosed location in the Netherlands, where they hoped to spend a few days alone before flying to London. — Reuter

Israelis dismiss UN vote

From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv, Feb 7

Israel today derisively dismissed Friday's United Nations call for its diplomatic, economic and military isolation. A Cabinet statement said tartly that Israel did not need moral preaching about peace from the Arab states and the Soviet Union. The 21 countries which opposed the resolution, including all of Western Europe except Greece, were praised as "democratic and free", in contrast to the communist members and the Islamic nations of Asia, Africa and the Arab world which made up the majority.

The statement said that the General Assembly's resolution was "null and void", but some analysts said that remained to be seen. The newspaper, *Maariv*, noted in a leading article that a small number of states which supported the resolution (Burma, Cyprus, Greece, Nepal and Peru) maintained diplomatic ties with Israel. A larger number maintained trade relations.

Commentators agreed that there was no danger of expulsion from the United Nations,

☐ The United States appears to be backing away from its earlier threats against the United Nations (Our New York Correspondent writes).

Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the American representative, called the resolution "obnoxious" and "filled with ominous portent".

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Terrorist suffer big setback

Rome. — Italian anti-terrorist police have arrested more than 150 guerrilla suspects and dismantled 25 of their bases since the liberation 11 days ago of General James Dozier, Interior Ministry sources said.

General Dozier was rescued after 42 days in captivity. *The Washington Post* reported that six men sent by the Pentagon to serve as liaison between Italian and American officials were members of the elite counter terrorist joint task force. It was created last year to replace the special army unit which failed to liberate the American hostages from Iran in 1980.

Missile gingerly reclaimed

Schranberg, West Germany. — American explosives experts carefully dismantled the concrete floor of a Black Forest barn in an attempt to recover a live Sidewinder missile which fell off a jet fighter during combat drill.

The 190lb missile, which carries about 9lb of TNT, plunged through the roof of the barn, and drove through about 15ft of densely packed hay before embedding itself 3ft into the concrete and sandstone floor, an Air Force spokesman said. The owner of the barn, Herr Eugen Seckinger, aged 79, and his wife, were taken to safety after the missile was discovered. Police said that Herr Seckinger, being hard of hearing, knew nothing of the missile until he saw a large hole in the barn roof.

Moses inspires a president

Washington. — When President Reagan celebrated his seventy-first birthday here with a few close friends, he became the oldest man ever to occupy the White House. Last week, at a prayer-luncheon, he joked about his age.

He said: "This increase of numbers doesn't bother me at all because I recall that Moses was 80 when God commissioned him for public service, and he lived to be 120. And Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were 90 when they did something truly amazing" — they had a son, Isaac. Sarah had been thought to be sterile.

Surgeons cut supply route

Paris. — A 22-year-old Briton was recovering here from an operation during which surgeons recovered more than 3 lb of cocaine from his stomach, reliable sources said.

Th man, who lives in London, was intercepted when he arrived on a flight from Colombia. He is said to have admitted having swallowed 70 tablets of cocaine, each 40 grams in condoms.

Romanian food prices to rise

Vienna.—Romania is raising food prices but will compensate low wage earners for the additional expense, Agerpres, the official news agency, said.

Western sources said that some prices, including those of black bread, sugar, flour and oil, had remained unchanged for about 30 years. Romania is negotiating with the International Monetary Fund for the second part of a $1,480m loan (about £800m) granted last June.

Lenin tomb closes

Moscow. — The Kremlin has announced that Lenin's mausoleum in Red Square, Moscow, is too be closed for two months — usually an indication that restorative work will be carried out on the embalmed body of the revolutionary leader who died in 1924. The mausoleum will be shut from February 15 to April 15, according to *Pravada*.

Washington's 'three Bs' prepare for EEC battle

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Feb 7

A Belgian, a West German and a Dane descend on Washington tomorrow for a steely exchange of words with three American ministers who are disrespectfully referred to in Brussels as "The three Bs".

According to Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, the meeting should be "an elegant dialogue" about the trading difficulties that exist between Europe and the United States. According to a very senior and angry EEC official last week, "there will be a good deal of blood on the floor".

What threatens to turn the elegant dialogue into a bloodbath is European fury at the rash of writs being brought against European steel producers for allegedly dumping their heavily subsidized produce on the American market. This, the writs claim, is causing material damage to the domestic industry.

Wielding a thick dossier of statistics to prove Europe's innocence, the Belgian Industry Commissioner, Viscount Etienne Davignon, and the West German External Relations Commissioner, Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp, will take on two of the "Bs" — Mr Malcolm Baldridge, Secretary of the Commerce Department, and Mr William Brock, Trade Representative.

Locked in single combat and hurling frozen chicken figures and maize gluten feed subsidies at each other, will be the Danish Agriculture Commissioner, Mr Poul Dalsagar and Mr John Block, Secretary of State for Agriculture.

The one thing certain to be proven by the encounter is the truth of Bernard Shaw's adage that there are lies, damn lies and statistics. With unemployment growing and the farming lobbies growing more vociferous on both sides of the Atlantic, the partners in Mr Haig's "elegant dialogue" will be seeking to prove that they have every right to exploit each others' markets and to dump if necessary.

In the words of the angry Commission official last week: "There is no rule about dumping. If you dump it is a fact of life. No one can complain if someone dumps."

But the consequence of that is the growth of the mood of protectionism and not only in the United States. It is starting to sweep through Europe to such an extent that the very concept of the words "Common Market" is becoming questionable.

If the three commissioners, presumably bloodied but unbowed, can overcome their jet lag in time, they will be taking part in the weekly commission meeting on Wednesday. There they will be devoting a good deal of their time to drafting a plan for narrowing the $7,800m trade gap between the EEC and Japan. For as competition grows fiercer, Europe finds itself fighting its trading partners on all fronts. only with the Efta countries and the poorer lands round the Mediterranean does the EEC have a trade surplus. All other producers, including the Soviet block, Third World countries and, of course, the oil exporters, have a net trading profit with the EEC.

This unpleasant economic fact of life is causing the individual EEC nations to turn on one another in nationalistic efforts to save their own industries.

This is most obvious in France where the new Socialist Government, following a path tentatively blazed by the previous administration, is setting out to "reconquer the internal market". The weapons for reconquest have yet to be forged. But there can be little doubt they will involve national aids tantamount to subsidy, which arguably run counter to the Treaty of Rome ideals.

But France, which opens and shuts its frontiers to Italian wine in wilful contradiction of the treaty, is far from being the only EEC member to devise trade barriers against its supposed partners. Every country is currently being prosecuted by the European Court for the practice and the signs are that the habit is growing, despite earnest Commission efforts to reverse the trend.

Some trade barriers are ingenious. Belgian shops can only sell margarine in cubic containers — and that keeps out West German competitors. Irish shops can only sell certain kinds of furniture with instructions in Gaelic — and that keeps out most people. West German wool cannot be sold in the traditional European standard size of 40 grammes. All chickens imported into Britain have to be free of vaccination — and that keeps out all but Irish birds. All soft drinks in Denmark have to be sold in returnable bottles — and that takes the fizz out of competitors' profits. The list of measures is as varied as the ingenuity of 10 member states can concoct.

France is now pressing for a range of unspecified measures to protect the European market from outside pressures. It is not winning any support in the declared statements of other European leaders, but increasingly the gap is widening between the public political necessity of remaining firm to the principle of free trade and the private economy necessity of protecting internal markets.

There is, however, one very damaging side effect of internal EEC protectionism, which is already causing real concern within the Commission. This is the way in which American investment vital to the European economy is being frightened away by these untreatylike barriers. American companies chose to put money into the EEC during the 60s and 70s because this meant they had a large common market. Now that "Buy French" or "Think British" campaigns are taking hold, potential American investors are looking elsewhere to place their dollars.

The European Commission is preparing for a long, hard trade war ahead on all fronts. But while it sends champions off to the United States to fight for steel and concocts plans to keep out the Japanese, its biggest battle looks likely to be against member states.

EEC trade gap in $M

		1978	1979
	1980		
Japan	-5036	-5104	-8808
United States	-6542	-12089	-24265
Comecon	1857	-4835	-10633
Oil producers	-8700	-27100	-41500
Non-oil producers in Third World	2300	1100	-1200

EEC Unemployed

6,004,000	6,092,000	6,844,000

Figures for 1981 are not yet complete, although in each case the trend is continuing if not accelerating. EEC unemployment is now more than 10 million.

Confirmed treaty infringements (as of Oct 1, 1981)

	corrected
end France	40
Italy	27
Germany	17
Denmark	12
Holland	11
Belgium	11
Britain	9
Ireland	7
Luxembourg	5

Tables and figures derived from: EEC protectionism: present practice and future trends by Wolfgang Hager and Robert Taylor (European Research Associates, 39 Blvd Clovis, 1040 Brussels).



Mrs Tricia Crocker, the widow of the British yachtsman murdered in the Caribbean, arriving at Heathrow. Mrs Crocker flew in from Barbados with her husband's body.

Turkish military tighten restrictions on press

Ankara, Feb 7.—Turkey's miliary rulers announced further restrictions on the press yesterday and banned non-government bodies from inviting or meeting foreign delegations.

The military statement barred the Turkish press from quoting foreign news reports critical of Turkey. It ordered societies, foundations, trade unions, and other bodies to seek the permission of the martial law authorities before inviting foreign delegations.

Permission nust also be sought for meetings with any foreign delegation arriving in Turkey uninvited, the statement said. The measures reflect a deterioration in relations between Turkey and the West after criticism of Turkey's military rule last week by the Council of Europe.

General Kenan Evren, the head of state, accused the Council of interfering in Turkey's affairs and hinted that Turkey might withdraw. The press has not been censored since the September, 1980 coup although editors have been warned to stick to guidelines laid down by the generals.

A scheduled visit to Turkey this week by Mr Emile van Lennep, secretary-general of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, was quietly postponed.

Today's military statement was vague. It banned Turkish newspapers from quoting foreign radio stations or other foreign news media "that continue to spread lies and feelings of hatred against Turkey and against the present administration".

Party closes ranks behind Marchais

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Feb 7

The twenty-fourth Congress of the French Communist Party, which ended today, predictably produced no surprises, though it came soon after the party's most resounding electoral defeat since the Second World War.

There was hardly a whisper during the five-day marathon of speeches of the serious crisis which grips the party, the sharp decline in popular support and the mounting financial difficulties.

M Georges Marchais, the architect of this disaster, whose leadership seemed under threat after last June's elections, was triumphantly reelected as secretary-general for another three-year term.

Only 12 new members were elected to the party's 145 — strong Central Committee. But M Georges Seguy, the secretary-general of the Communist-dominated CGT, trade union, left it at his own request. He is also to give up his post as leader of the trade union organization next June, for health reasons.

The façade of unanimity was successfully maintained at the congress. The final motion was carried by 2,004 votes out of 2,006 delegates, with two abstentions. "The immense majority of Communists have come out in favour of the strategy proposed," Mr Guy Hermier, a rising member of the Politburo, declared.

That strategy is twofold: the party intends to be both a party of combat and a party of government, as M Marchais has emphasized. It has four ministers in the Mitterrand coalition Government. One of them, M Charles Fiterman, was given a standing ovation and is seen as the natural successor to the secretary-generalship.

While determined to remain in the Government, the party intends to preserve its militant image, by encouraging "the necessary intervention of the workers," in favour of change, and against the forces of reaction, as M Marchais emphasized in his closing speech today. That is where the CGT comes in, notably in fomenting unrest over the cuts in the working week.

The party's ambivalent attitude is also apparent in M Marchais' endorsement of the Socialist Government's policy and in his reassertion of his party's pro-Moscow line.

The great debate which has been going on for months in the party at grass-roots level about the breach with the Socialists and the violently anti-socialists line in the four years leading up to the presidential elections, followed by the sudden about-face after them, was hardly mentioned during the congress.

Moi threatens to throw out Kenyan Asians

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi, Feb 7

A bitter attack on Asian businessmen here by President Daniel Arap Moi has shocked and dismayed many of the 80,000 Asians living in Kenya.

President Moi yesterday accused Asians of hoarding and smuggling, and said any Asian doing this would be deported, even if he were a Kenyan citizen. The President was speaking to a delegation from Embu, 120 miles from here, which called on him at State House in Nairobi.

Attacking corruption, he said: "Asians in this country are ruining the economy by smuggling currency out of the country and even hoarding essential goods and selling them through the back door.

"From now on anybody found hoarding or smuggling will be punished severely. If he is an Asian he will be deported immediately, regardless of whether he is a citizen or not."

There is no apparent reason for the launching of such attacks at this time, but Kenya is undergoing severe economic problems and is suffering shortages of many imported goods.

President Moi appeared to express dissatisfaction with the conduct of some African traders who are used as a front by Asian businessmen. But it is the suggestion that Asians who hold Kenyan citizenship could be deported — and presumably stripped of their citizenship — that has shocked Asians here.

Belgium faced by general strike

From Ian Murray Brussels, Feb 7

Much of Belgium will be paralysed for 24 hours from midnight by a general strike called in protest at government austerity measures, which have yet to be announced officially.

There will be no trains, law courts, newspapers, buses, post office and telephone services, of creches. A few schools may operate in defiance of picket lines. Hospitals, radio and television, pharmacies and fire services will run the barest of services. Most of industry is expected to be at a standstill.

The strike has been called by the socialist FGTB union, which is strongest in French-speaking Wallonia, the area which has been hardest hit by Belgium's escalating economic difficulties. In Wallonia the Christian CSC union is also expected to lend its considerable backing to the industrial action. Even in Flanders, where support for the coalition Government is strongest, widespread action looks likely.

The reason for the protest action was made clear last night in a television inerview with Mr Wilfried Martens, the Prime Minister. He said he would be using the special powers his Government has just been given to hold down any increase in the national wage bill this year to 3 per cent. Restoring the economy was not an easy task and would involve sacrifices by everyone, he said. "we must work harder and harder".

Mr Martens promised that before introducing new economic measures there would be "real, but brief" consultation with the unions. Lack of agreement would not stop the Government from acting. Only the most impoverished would not have to make sacrifices.

Imposing these sacrifices, which will also entail redundancies in ailing industries, the coalition Government. In particular, the French-speaking Social Christian Party (PSC), which is closely linked with the Christian trade union movement, finds itself in dificulties in Wallonia.

This was underlined yesterday by the near unanimous decision of the Christian workers movement meeting in Namur to form a new political movement. The meeting felt that in supporting the government the PSC was drawing away from the grass roots union support

Carrington in Malaysia to mend trade fences

From David Watts Kuala Lumpur, Feb 7

Lord Carrington, The Foreign Secretary, begins tomorrow his most ticklish diplomatic task in three years — to patch up relations with Malaysia, which have reaches their lowest ebb for a quarter of a century.

Not since he mended fences with the Saudis after the showing on British television of the film *Death of a Princess* has the Foreign Secretary faced a problem of such complexity, and of such economic importance to Britain. Malaysia's preference for non-British products has cost British companies at least £15.5m in the past few weeks, and could cost many times that in lost orders in the near future.

Among the deals that may depend on the success of the Foreign Secretary's visit are an order for the best-selling British Aerospace Hawk trainer/ground attack aircraft, and a regular annual contract for Leyland lorries.

The Royal Malaysian Air Force requires 26 jet trainers, of which British Aerospace hopes to supply at least a part. But competition is strong from cheaper and less sophisticated rivals from Italy and Brazil.

A regular contract with British Leyland for the supply of army lorries is part of the 9,000m Malaysian dollars (£2,100m) that the Government intends to spend on manpower, bases and equipment for the police and armed forces under the fourth Malaysia Plan between 1981 and 1985.

Britain has always been in the forefront as a supplier of military equipment to Kuala Lumpur, but with the office of Dr Mahathir Mohammed, the Prime Minister, monitoring all government contracts with Britain, that lead will be reduced.

Under rules introduced last October, the Prime Minister's office inspects all British Government bids and contracts and, unless there is no alternative supplier available, awards the contract to the next lowest bidder. Within the last few weeks, a £13m contract for the construction of a power station at Klang, 26 miles east of the capital, has been lost, and a £2.3m consultancy on energy-related construction work in the north-east state of Terengganu has gone to an American company, after a lower British bid, on which the Matthew Hall company had been working for two years, had been rejected.

In the long-term, Malaysia's 42,800m dollar development plan has many opportunities for British companies, if the present resistance to things British can be overcome. Lord Carrington's task is a sensitive one, and quick results are not expected.

British officials, say that Lord Carrington has nothing immediate to offer. He comes, as he said in his first speech on arrival, "to listen and learn". He has emphasized that "relations between Malaysia and Britain must be based on mutual respect and equality".

In Dr Mahathir Mohammed he is dealing with a complex and determinded man, whose resentment of the British and the handling of their £1,000m worth of interests in Malaysia has a multitude of causes. The most recent is a series of real and imagined slights, which began last year with the removal of student subsidies, and reached a peak of intensity with a speech by the High Commissioner, Mr William Bentley, and what the Malaysian Government saw as attempts by the British to prevent the Malaysians from buying up British holdings in the country.



Bloodied but unbowed: Thai soldiers after a battle with Khun Sa's troops.

Thais tame warlord's town

From Neil Kelly, Ban Therd Thai, Thailand, Feb 7

Thailand gave this mountain town five miles from Burma a new name over the weekend to mark its recapture from Khum Sa, the Burmese warlord who dominates the narcotics trade in the Golden Triangle.

Thai forces last month drove him and his private army out of the town which they had ruled like mandarins for a decade. The town was called Ban Hin Taek, but Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, daughter of King Bhumibol, chose the new name, Ban Therd Thai, which means "village uplifted to freedom".

Thai authorities are trying to reassert the control which Khun Sa was allowed to seize in 1973. A new Thai flag flies over the centre and three battalions of troops are quartered here. Until a few days ago the nearest military post was two miles away.

Yesterday 200 paramilitary rangers fought a two-hour battle four miles from the town with 30 of Khun Sa's men, killing three of them without suffering casualties themselves.

Almost all the population of 1,650, mainly Burmese Shans and Chinese Yunnanese, fled during last month's fighting but 70 per cent have now returned. Two small sections of the town were destroyed, largely by Khun Sa's men as they blew up stores of ammunition.

Otherwise the prosperous town which Khun Sa built with profits from his drug empire is intact. Strongly-built concrete and brick houses and shops are a contrast with primitive bamboo and leaf shacks in neighbouring villages.

There is running water and electricity in most houses, from a new £20,000 generator. The 100-bed hospital built by Khun Sa is superior to many in larger, less isolated communities

Khun Sa's own house stands in a commanding position above the town. Personal possessions are scattered everywhere: clothing, books, children's toys, pots and pans, ornaments, a 23in television set.

Nearby is the imposing residence of his chief of staff and the public relations office of Khun Sa's Shan United Army. Here a press is still in working order. Tape recorders and film cameras produced material publicizing the army's cause: the liberation of the Shan people from Burmese rule.

The town has two guest houses for distinguished visitors. Thai Army officers said many well-known Thai military men and politicians had been among Khun Sa's guests. The Government will use Khun Sa's properties for the benefit of the local community.

The location of the town partly explains why Khun Sa and his drug empire went unmolested by the Government for so long. For half the year during the wet season it is virtually cut off from the outside world. Even now a helicopter or a vehicle with four-wheel drive is needed to reach the town.

The Times Profile: James Prior

After unions and Ulster, what next for the great persuader?

Cabinet reshuffle: September, 1981

Putting a cheerful face on the move from Employment to Northern Ireland

Belfast: November, 1981

Leaving the funeral of MP Robert Bradford, murdered by the IRA

Asked to describe Mrs Thatcher's ways of picking her men in Northern Ireland, one Conservative MP once offered the following explanation: "In 1975 she won the election for the party leadership largely thanks to the efforts of Airey Neave. Brave man that he was, he was not truly shadow cabinet material. What was he given? Northern Ireland. Four years later she won the confidence vote and hence the election largely thanks to the efforts of Humphry Atkins. He was not cabinet material either and what did he get? Northern Ireland".

He was speaking, of course, before Mrs Thatcher geared up her interest in Ireland and began her summits with Irish leaders. He was also speaking before James Prior took over the secretary of state's pale green and white office with its mock Doric columns along the walls and the view over the soggy Stormont parkland.

Northern Ireland and its problems are now interlocked with the career of a man whose possibilities fascinate. As the open cabinet confrontations on economic strategy fail to materialize, Prior's performance in Belfast affects not only Britain's longest, aching crisis but also his rating in the game of speculative permutations about the next parliament. If it's hung, who will lead the Tories into negotiation with the Alliance?

Four months into a job which he so publicly did not want, Prior gives every impression of enjoying himself as he fences with Mr John Z de Lorean and reaches the "red meat" of the negotiations preceding his political initiative. He rates one recent week's agenda, which included an economic cabinet, a briefing on the initiative for back benchers, the de Lorean crunch and sundry speeches across the country, the most strenuous week he has ever spent in government.

Interminable hours are now spent in an RAF plane flying between Northolt and Aldergrove airports; instead of Norwich City, he occasionally watches the Belfast team Glentoran. He fancies the prospect of watching some racing, but the last hot tip from one of his special branch men that he put money on was a loser.

His background has equipped him with a robust education for a strange job — one which the holder himself is supposed to work to abolish. His father was a prosperous East Anglican lawyer who became a tea merchant; he was powerfully affected by his experiences as an official receiver in Suffolk during the depression, when his duties included winding up farms which had gone bust. To encourage early financial self reliance, Prior senior equipped James with a cheque book at the tender age of 14.

Elements of Prior appear in the character of Peter Morrison an MP in the ten-novel cycle *Alms for Oblivion* by Prior's Charterhouse contemporary Simon Raven. Morrison appears as a staunch, decent and slightly stuffy schoolboy, taking his friends round his father's sunlit 'Norfolk desmesne'.

The same novel, *Fielding Gray* gives Morrison a line which could stand up as the motto of Priorite pragmatism. "The mess is there", said Peter "something must be done". One Prior-watcher even expressed fear that this briskness might be brought up short by the stubborn lessons of Irish history. "The trouble with Jim is that because of the nature of the man, if he thinks there is something to be done, he will go and do it. He does not think there is a problem that does not have a political solution".

The Suffolk land agent and farmer growing corn for the Coop and peas for Birdseye became an MP in the 1959 election and attached himself to Edward Heath, who he served as parliamentary private secretary for five years. His ambitious wife, Jane, established early in her husband's Commons career that the family came too. She and the four children now all grown up, travelled to London when he did. Prior has held directorships in firms dealing with anything from boats and biscuits to lipstick.

After the Ministry of Agriculture the leadership of the Commons and the miners election of 1974, Heath made him employment spokesman, a job which he was told to hold for an unusually long stretch of seven years. According to one friend, he was cast into gloom by the news that he was to stay in the job under the new leader. Had he been cast as the whipping boy of a party which was hardening its face against unions whose memories of 1974 were still fresh?

He doggedly set out to reorganize Tory contacts with the unions, widening by degrees the circle prepared to talk freely to him, lubricating the process with supper parties for the leaders and their wives at his London flat. The same friend remembers him calling triumphally on the night James Callaghan announced that he would not call an election in October 1978. Prior's antennae told him that the unions were planning a winter which would ruin Callaghan's claim to any special relationship with them and which would hand the Conservatives the election.

He laced his ministerial pronouncement with words which carried echoes of alternative leadership but which skirted the explicit economic dissent voiced by Sir Ian Gilmour and Peter Walker. "I want to try and hold this country together and to bring out the qualities which actually get people working together..." "You have got to work with the grain of society and we always have..." "...the country is crying out for leadership..."

It makes for an irresistible comparison with Stanley Baldwin, whose career Prior respects and whose coalition-juggling job he may one day be imitating. Baldwin defended the trade unions political levy against his own right wing; Prior was christened "Pussyfoot" by the critics of his union bill who said that his nerve had been broken by 1974. Prior's informal advisors include Sussex University political historian and Baldwin biographer, Keith Middlemas.

Carefully nurtured press contacts paid dividends and there was only one exception. He was rapidly traced as the source of a leak that British Steel's chairman might be prematurely retired; Mrs Thatcher issued a matronly and humiliating rebuke. A year later a Thatcherite whisperer suggested to the *Daily Express* that Prior and Joe Gormley had been holding conspiratorial meetings behind the back of a cabinet wrestling with a confrontation over pit closures. Reiterating that the source of the smear had been "Within the government" the paper withdrew.

Having known for several months that Northern Ireland was on the cards, Prior attempted the notorious bluff which was called "I Gambled" he said later "and it did not entirely come off". He not only retained his membership of the "E" committee on economic strategy, but bargained to take two members of his coterie with him to Stormont. Humphry Atkins had already assured one of his junior ministers who was subsequently moved to make room for one of Prior's new arrivals that he could leave on a trip to Australia secure in the knowledge that he would be staying in his job. The only man Prior failed to persuade to accompany him was his driver.

The "E" committee sometimes meets immediately after the Cabinet on Thursday morning but has also met on Wednesdays making the minister shuttle back from Stormont a day early.

His remaining London-based political adviser, Robert Shepherd, keeps watch while he is gone. Prior is now deprived of the macro-economic briefs which used to be provided by the Department of Employment's economists. The backbenchers who identify with him murmur that he is now less accessible and less visible.

All this however matters less than he feared. He has pointed out to colleagues how Northern Ireland makes some mileage on television news almost every night. He is evidently enjoying ruling the wide range of mini departments which operate in his province. He can reflect on the fact that while Westminster may regard the place as a black hole, no secretary of state so far has left the job with his reputation measurably worse. His tenure cannot be much longer than two years and he has one clear shot at some political progress. "Some people say: do nothing for five years, get the security right. I do not want to be just a proconsul who has nothing to do with politics. The place is *alive* with politics".

Whatever the fate of the initiative, his early approach shows an edge over his predecessor. Devolving some government somehow clearly takes precedence for the rest of this government over Anglo Irish summitary or the disengagement reflexes of disillusioned ministers. Prior proceeds with this clear principle firmly established; local politicians tempted boycott or sabotage have to reckon that nothing else will turn up before 1983.

He has clearly dropped Atkins's assumption that nothing could move without complete agreement on what it should be. He is only looking for enough signs of acquiescence to know that whatever he announces will not be dismissed out of hand. He professes to see some signs of "fermentation" among local politicians. He has already produced one important credential: a £90m aid package, considerably in excess of expectations and similarly in excess of money allocated to Scotland and Wales. Catholic and nationalist interest in the "Irish Dimension" (otherwise decoded as "progress towards reunification") is kept alive by Lord Gowrie, who has cast himself in the role of the man who chills the unionist spines from time to time. He recently wondered out loud if Northern Ireland people might not hold both Irish and British passports simultaneously.

Prior operates on a theory of linkage: "Politics, economics and security go hand in hand here". He feels that the 1976-79 Labour Government failed to take the opportunity it was creating by pumping money into the province. "It was a pity they did not pressurize the unionists more into saying what the price of economic aid is going to be." Prior's price is cooperation. And he explicitly rejects the Unionist view that security can be treated alone and ahead of any other priority: "I am the last person to say that we have got on top of it. In modern society you just don't get on top of it by sheer force. You have to do it politically."

The negotiations have convinced him that his "leverage is not really very great". One of the few constructive lessons available from the traumas of 1981 was that sensitive experiments will not automatically trip off disasters. "The Catholic community was close to the brink during the hunger strikes, the Protestant community was close to it after Bradford's murder and the killings on the border, but they never went over the top".

The initative may well be accompanied by ritual discoveries that there is a "ground swell" or "yearning" for reconciliation and successful political arrangements which have eluded so many governments for so long. Any momentum of the moment is entirely the creation of James Prior, who has done much of the creation by thinking aloud to most of the politicians he meets and most of the journalists who see him — a style which has scared his officials but not led him into any catastrophes so far. But the real tests are still to come.

George Brock

Slump takes the pep out of Costa Rican election

San José, Costa Rica, Feb 7. — Costa Rica, Central America's showpiece democracy, is voting today in general and presidential elections overshadowed by the country's worst economic crisis in more than three decades of political stability.

The 1.2 million Costa Ricans eligible to vote appear far more concerned with food shortages, high inflation and high unemployment than involving themselves in a national election campaign.

After almost a decade of spending more than it earned, this tiny republic now finds itself with a $2,600m (£1,400m) foreign debt which it cannot start repaying. The economic slump is of such proportions that the presidential candidates have avoided detailing their planned solutions.

One victim of the crisis looks likely to be the ruling Unity grouping, a broad-based coalition led by President Rodrigo Carazo Odio, who under the constitution cannot run again for office.

All the opinion polls point to a comfortable victory for Unity's main rival, the National Liberation Party (PLN), and its presidential candidate, Señor Luis Alberto Monge.

Senõr Monge blames the Government for the crisis and denies that his centrist party, traditionally a big public spender, sowed the seeds of the crisis.

Costa Ricans are used to one of the highest standards of living in Latin America

The divide between rich and poor is smaller than in El Salvador and Guatemala and the abolition of the Army more than 30 years ago removed the possibility of a coup.

The boom days for Costa Rica ended when world prices of its vital coffee exports fell

A scarcity of dollars and pressure on Costa Rica's currency, the colón, forced the Government into a formal devaluation last year. The colón now trades at around 40 to the dollar compared with a previous official value of 8.5.

This year's campaign lacks the colourful parades and spontaneous political gatherings of past years. The fear of violence is growing. —Reuter.

Economic emergency in Bolivia

La Paz, Feb 7.—Government employees will get pay rises, prices of essential foods will be frozen and public spending curbed under Bolivia's emergency economic package, details of which were revealed yesterday.

The military Government has devalued the Peso, in an attempt to stop the country going bankrupt, and has outlined a number of other measures.

Government sources said that petrol prices would rise by between 33 and 43 per cent, pushing up transport costs. To compensate for this, Government employees would receive pay rises of between 17 and 130 per cent.

Bolivia suffers from a chronic shortage of foreign exchange, which has been exacerbated by the world economic recession.

Reserves were virtually exhausted by the end of last year, and the country is saddled with a $3,800m (£2,000m) external debt.

President Torrelio said that Bolivia's economic predicament was caused by its poor use of foreign loans, high interest rates on its short term debts, and the exorbitant cost of luxury imports.

Soon after President Torrelio announced the new measures on television, the armed forces confirmed their confidence in his Government, and called on the population to give it their "patriotic support". President Torrelio, an army general, came to power in a coup last year. —Reuter.

When mother love was born

Elisabeth Badinter, the 37-year-old wife of the French Minister of Justice, argues — coolly — that there is no such thing as natural maternal instinct, that it is a culturally acquired emotion.

In support of her argument she has written a book detailing the historical evidence of the lack of maternal instinct in French women over the past 200 years.

Needless to say, the book, published next Thursday, *The Myth of Motherhood* (Souvenir Press, £8.95, £5.95 paperback) has roused considerable criticism in France. Psychologists, paediatricians, educationalists and the clergy have all denounced it. Although she was the first woman to be appointed a full professor at the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, in person Mme Badinter is gentle and looks younger than her years. She speaks quietly, softly and convincingly of her ideas, and she is the obviously affectionate mother of three children, Judith, 15 Robert, 13, and Benjamin, 11.

"Maternal love is not deeply rooted in women's natures" she says. "If it were, we could observe it everywhere. It would be universal. But if you study history, especially the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in France, you see that women quite easily gave up their babies. English women, too, especially aristocratic women, had similar attitudes."

Elisabeth Badinter says that the concept of the child as a precious being, a frail creature needing love and tender care, came with the new science of demographics, the writings of Rousseau and the rise of the bourgeoisie.

"The mother-dominated family is an ideological invention of the nineteenth century," she says.

Concerned about falling population and the number of infant deaths, French authorities started emphasizing hygienic home care for infants, and the "new mother" came essentially from the new middle class.

"By accepting responsibility for her children's upbringing the middle class woman became the central axis of the family. . . The holy 'domestic monarch'."

As evidence she cites detailed statistics: "In 1780 Jean Charles Pierre Lenoir, lieutenant-general of the Paris police, noted, not without some bitterness that only 1,000 of the 21,000 babies born each year in Paris were being breast fed by their mothers. Another 1,000 newborns, children of privileged families, were breast fed by live-in wet nurses. The rest were taken from their mothers and sent to wet nurses outside Paris. The poorer the child, the further it was sent, sometimes as far as Normandy or Burgundy."

The practice was not confined to Paris. It occurred in most French cities. In Lyon, for example, Prost de Loyer, a police lieutenant pointed out, "there are close to 6,000 births yearly. Out of these there are at most 1,000 whose parents can supply good nurses. The others are cast off to wretched ones."





Elisabeth Badinter holds degrees in psychology and sociology and now takes a course in the history of the family at the Ecole Polytechnique. She has a special interest in the eighteenth century.

The practice of using wet nurses went all the way down the social scale. "Almost everybody in the cities except the very wealthy and the very poor sent their babies away."

It was, she said, a very haphazard arrangement, depending on a fluctuating supply of peasant girls in the country who had given birth to their own babies.

The reasons for sending a child away seem to have varied according to the economic circumstances. The wives of wealthy merchants, lawyers and government officials preferred to spend their time on social activities. On the other hand, the wives of silk workers, shopkeepers and other artisans who worked alongside their husbands could not afford to take time off to nurse their own babies.

Peasants in the country generally did not give up their own children unless they were extremely poor, in which case they would abandon their own babies in order to be paid for nursing a city child.

Not even all aristocratic babies were kept at home. A typical case was the great statesman Charles Meurice de Talleyrand, who was baptised on the day of his birth in 1754 in Paris and handed over to a wet nurse immediately afterwards.

She took him to her home in an outlying district. During more than four years his mother did not visit him even once, nor did she ever inquire about him. For instance, she was quite unaware that an accident had left her son with a club foot.

"It would be senseless to speak of mother love during this period." Elisabeth Badinter says, "When society does not put pressure on women to keep their children you find that women do something else. It was true in ancient Rome as well."

She also criticizes the authors who led the "maternal revolution" — Rousseau and his twentieth-century counterpart Freud.

"They had the same definition of what is a 'normal woman'. They said that a woman could be fulfilled only in giving birth and mothering a child. They saw women as passive, masochistic and narcissistic. I *completely* disagree with this, and with the concept of Freudian guilt."

She added that it was well known now that a child needed love to develop well, but it was better to be a mother one hour a day, but happy and working, than a frustrated mother for 24 hours a day. "Motherhood is not washing clothes".

She sees parallels between the aristocratic French women of the eighteenth century and the professional women of today.

"Women in the eighteenth century didn't feel guilty of not taking care of their children. And now we don't feel as guilty as we used to."

The great hope for the future, she says, is in the growing phenomenon of paternal love. Her own husband, Robert Badinter, has always helped her take care of the children.

In the future she thinks men will share in the pressure to be good parents.

"For centuries men repressed tenderness and emotion towards babies and little children." she says. "Now they are discovering pleasures they never knew. I don't think it will emasculate them. They will still be men, just more pleasant for women to live with."

In fact, she says, if the trend continues she would not be surprised to find a new theory of the paternal instinct emerging.

Rosemarie Wittman Lamb

Television

Breaking uneven

Melvyn Bragg appeared briefly on The South Bank Show (LWT) last night to hand over to Germaine Greer. I began by thinking that was uncommonly handsome of him but, before the end, concluded it was downright rash. In future he might reflect where good intentions can lead.

Miss Greer was talking about the Art of the Ad, specifically the television commercial, not those which punctuated her performance — and on this occasion the unnatural breaks seemed less intrusive — but television advertising in general and what she considers the best in particular.

Miss Greer's father, she informed us at the outset, was a seller of advertising space, an occupation that passes through periods of great travail, and it may be that she was unconsciously atoning for a well-provided childhood by giving her benison without due care and attention.

Whatever the motivation, she talked a lot of rot. British advertising has been techically good for many years and even bad advertisements, those which grab us by the lapels and shout information we could do without, can be technically good while being aesthetically, socially and psychologically moronic.

A lot of money is spent on making them and Miss Greer, in her Alice in Blunderland role, had discovered that a 30-second commercial can equal or exceed the cost of a half-hour programme. The point about commercials is that, no matter how expensive they are, or how sophisticated visually, they are intrusive. It is true that they are less unwelcome if they are clever, or humorous, or both. But if, for instance, you were watching *Brideshead* you would not (unless you were Miss Greer) jump up and say "Whoopee" when you saw the "End of Part One" come up to herald the commercials.

Miss Greer took no account of this, nor did she appear aware that good commercials — those that entertain as well as sell — are dependent not only on the agency but on the client who is selling the product and the market that product is aimed at.

I had no quarrel with her choice of advertisements — all were visually excellent — just with her approach and general naivete. She took us through her choices like a newly-qualified remedial teacher.

She explained every facet of the Cinzano Bianco commercial — the one in which Leonard Rossiter tips his drink over Joan Collins; announced that she could watch the Fiat Strada commercial — "Hand-made by Robots" — every day; thought it sheer genius to have married Italian music to an Italian car (maybe Wagner had the wrong beat); and told the director Hugh Hudson how clever he had been to get the sound of nuts falling in one of his commercials. He explained it had just happened.

It was like that — all gush and garbage. "I allowed myself to needle him," she said before talking to Lester Bookbinder, a director and, for many years, a superb still photographer. He appeared looking remarkably un-needled in the circumstances, explaining that in advertising no one was asked to make anything other than a positive statement. He, I thought, would have made a greater intellectual contribution to such a programme than Miss Greer.

She ended by telling us that in hard times the best went first and appeared to be urging the formation of some kind of society to protect good advertising, which she put at the improbably high figure of ten per cent.

I could not work up my usual enthusiasm for BBC2's World About Us, which told the story of the Samurai from Twickenham, a 35-year-old airline pilot who began with judo, got his black belt in Japan, taught himself the langauge, married a Japanese, became obsessed with the Samurai and was eventually accepted as one of them.

We followed him to Japan to see him become the first foreigner to take part in the Soma Wild Horse Chase, a Samurai event that sounded more exciting in prospect than it looked. It needed a Kurosawa to make it work, but the pilot was fine and I would feel safe flying with him. You have to be careful what you say about a Samurai.

Dennis Hackett

Galleries

Rising joyously to the fleeting occasion

The bold simplicity and directness of Mestrovic's poster for an exhibition; and (right) the delicate rococo side in Cardinaux's poster for "Die Wilden Schwäne"

The Art of the Poster in Austria and Germany 1900-1920
Fischer Fine Art

The Art of Radio Times
Victoria and Albert Museum

Even the finest of fine artists do not always live in ivory towers — indeed some of them never do. Bread and butter has to be earned, and what is there, after all, so demeaning about working to a commission and a deadline? Sometimes the result will be hardly more than adequate. But sometimes the pressures, excitements and disciplines of the situation give a sense of occasion to which the artist, like an actor on first night, may triumphantly rise.

It is quite possible, therefore, to prefer the graphic work of some of the artists included in Fischer Fine Art's show of mainly Jugendstil posters from central and eastern Europe to their easel paintings. Franz von Stuck's paintings can easily be flashy and more than a little vulgar; but his posters for various art shows in Munich during the 1900s pull him together remarkably and reveal a strong sense of vital form under the sexy Symbolist trappings. Peter Behrens, being primarily an architect, industrial designer and graphic artist, we would expect to come up with strong designs perfectly calculated for their form and purpose, but the poster by the Yugoslav sculptor Mestrovič for an art show in Zagreb comes as a very pleasing bonus, with its bold simplicity and directness.

Most of the other artists featured are a lot less well-known. Emile Cardinaux's poster for *Die Wilden Schwäne* reminds us that Middle European Art Nouveau has its delicate rococo side as well as its dark passions. Ludwig Lutz Ahrenberger's elaborate design to advertise a Munich art dealer, combining, rather oddly, some peasant-like formalized cut-outs with a nude lady on an elephant, has a fetching unexpectedness. And Dagobert Peche's poster for a series of concerts in Vienna in 1920, as well as being very decorative, offers an interesting historical sidelight in that of the composers listed Korngold and Schreker are well enough known to be left at a surname while Arnold Schoenberg has to be specified. Or was that merely a design consideration? It makes one wonder.

For Graphic artists in Britain from the Twenties right up to date, *Radio Times* has been a constant standby and faithful patron. Few have been so grand as to refuse it altogether, especially if, as with Paul Nash, Rex Whistler or McKnight Kauffer, they were brought in for some special job like the cover to a Christmas number. Others, again, contributed some of their best work to the pages of *Radio Times*: in the show of original artwork from six decades at the Victoria and Albert Museum, until February 21, the dominating figure undoubtedly is Eric Fraser. With his extraordinary variety of subject-matter and his crisply unmistakable woodcut style (though few if any of his works actually are woodcuts), he would surely be much grander in critical estimation if he had worked in a less ephemeral form. But he could hardly have given more pleasure; and finally that perhaps is what counts.

John Russell Taylor



Theatre

Devil of a tale

Moon Mill
Arts

The final Unicorn production before the Arts goes dark for much-needed renovation, *Moon Mill* continues the company's fertile association with the remarkable children's writer Joan Aiken. Like her previous plays, it is a fantasy set in the modern world, reading mythological patterns into everyday events, and striving to transform the Britain of supermarkets and motorways into a magical landscape. But this is the first time that she has gone to the length of involving the Devil in a science-fiction plot.

The piece is built on the idea of mills as ancient sources of power, linked with the mysterious "ley line" trackways criss-crossing the country. The mill in question is threatened with demolition as it stands on the site of a proposed East Anglian airport; the author of this bit of bureaucratic villainy being Lucifer, who sees the mill's lift-off as a means of catapulting himself back into the upper regions.

My feeling that Miss Aiken has overreached herself this time was strengthened by finding that the mill is occupied by a Nobel scientist and his ballerina sister, both busily grinding corn even though there is no village for miles around; that Lucifer's imp turns up in the shape of a schoolboy kidnapped by his divorced father; and that even the local garage man goes in for devil-raising.

The plot is heavily overloaded at the expense of character and dialogue. What remains undimmed is Miss Aiken's authority as a story teller. The events may criss-cross like tracks on an old map, but she never loses her power to say: this is what happens next. Nicholas Barter's production contains some stridently pushing performances, but it also conveys a strong sense of ceremonial magic calmly supervised by Hazel Penwarden, a white witch to her fingertips.

Irving Wardle

Subsidized sparkle

A Distant Applause
La Bonne Crêpe

The room is too small. When the word gets out, and the success of the theatrical incubator that is part of Carlo Lange's restaurant, La Bonne Crêpe on Maddox Street, W1, becomes known, it will not hold the people who would enjoy the results. As a sort of one-man Arts Council, Mr Lange has been subsidizing a songwriter, a playwright and a string of actors. They work hard for their subsidy, sometimes as waiters, but every step of their progress is visible in the shows which play from Wednesday to Saturday evenings.

After something like 20 shows in two and a half years, the house playwright, Paul Prescott, has passed through the first stage of his apprenticeship to find his own voice. In *A Distant Applause* that voice is distinctive: comic, pathetic, musical and, most of all, entertaining. He tells an original story about a comedy team in an end-of-pier show as they come to the end of a season and perhaps the end of their partnership.

In a sense, he is still springing from a cliché, but his craftsmanship transcends the familiarity of the scene. He sets the story firmly in place. While exploring the personal relationship, he writes backstage banter and conversation which tellingly describes unseen characters, such as the next-door showgirl "aged somewhere between Hayley Mills and death".

The on-stage act is just original enough to show the position of the team, bringing life to a routine tattered by age while carrying the promise of greater things. Mr Prescott takes the part of the straight man, carrying a secret worry on-stage and off, and gets from his opposite number, Roland Viner, a performance of such sparkling vitality and optimism that the whole relationship is absolutely convincing. This time La Bonne Crêpe is offering a portion of real theatre, not just a diversion between the pancake and the coffee.

Ned Chaillet

Opera

A Mimi untouched by the years

La Bohème
Covent Garden

Thursday could well have seen the return of Franco Zeffirelli to Covent Garden. Plans, kept under distinctly protective wraps, had been made for him to direct and design a new production of Verdi's *La Traviata*, which he wanted to dedicate to the memory of Maria Callas. The financing was only possible through a film, for the cinema rather than television, and the problems of lining up studios, artists and costumes proved impossible in the time available. So a revival of *La Bohème* was whisked in instead.

Covent Garden is still likely to have its new *Traviata* — the designs are all there waiting — but not for the moment. Zeffirelli's film version is probably coming first and the theatre will have to follow the studios.

The present *Bohème* revival has been built around the two principals of that promised *Traviata*: Ileana Cotrubas and Neil Shicoff. And in the event it is Mme Cotrubas who steals the evening away from everyone. Mimi was tailor-made for her. The years do not stale this interpretation of girl-woman, part flirt and part waif. Ileana Cotrubas insists that it is Mimi who changes the lives of all those whom she meets: Rodolofo grows up a little; Marcello at the final curtain clasps his Musetta; even Colline has cleaned up a bit.

The voice has the touch of sadness in the timbre that makes the early death come as no surprise, but there is also the strength to ride the orchestra, pushed pretty hard by Lamberto Gardelli at some moments, above everyone else. At first she has eyes for no one but Rodolfo, adoring him as he narrates the story of his life at the cast of a glance. *He* writes fine verses and *she* only creates artificial flowers; it is no consideration that they both come from paper.


Strength and sadness: Cotrubas with Shicoff

Neil Shicoff, who has sung many roles more demanding than Rodolfo, was curiously ill at ease during the first half of the evening. The production, as it now stands, turns the Bohemians into egotists. Failures they may be, as poets and musicians, painters and philosophers, but defeat is never admitted — there is always a rich Englishman to be conned for the price of a meal. Shicoff, however, overdid the arrogance and during "Che gelida manina" the voice was tight at the top. It lacks tenderness.

Cotrubas relaxed him by the third act, which was, by far, the most successful of the four. It got off to an exceptional start with the encounter of *Mimi* and Marcello, in the shape of Thomas Allen. These two artists strike warmth from one another and it is a combination to be considered for other operas, including that *Traviata*.

The principal newcomer to Covent Garden's *Bohème*, apart from Lamberto Gardelli, who provided a wealth of colour and yet a certain brusqueness in the pit, was Marilyn Zschau as Musetta. She is lumbered with a lap dog — no wonder the head waiter at the Café Momus wiped his hands down his apron after touching it — and is portrayed as *une femme d'un certain âge*. (Her escort, the unhappy Alcindoro, is appropriately younger than usual.) Her brassiness and auburn hair contrast well with Cotrubas's delicate features, but she could do with the Romanian soprano's control of the upper register.

As a hastily arranged revival this Bohème has vigour and two outstanding interpretations from Ileana Cotrubas and Thomas Allen. But let that *Traviata* be not too far away.

John Higgins

Concerts

Philharmonia/Ashkenazy
Festival Hall

Safely returned, earlier last week, from a busy concert tour of Japan together, Vladimir Ashkenazy and the Philharmonia Orchestra, whose principal guest conductor he has become, on Friday began to show London what they played in the Orient, and how on the tour Ashkenazy played the piano and conducted every concert. At this first home-coming concert he remained on the rostrum, and left the small but prominent piano part in Rachmaninov's Symphonic Dances to the orchestra's regular pianist, Michael Reeves.

That last half sentence will indicate that their repertory in Japan was not all old hat. The Symphonic Dances were Rachmaninov's last major composition, the only one he wrote in America, and the ultimate fruition of his debut in the United States. Then, and thereafter, his music became leaner and more athletic, the heart now worn beneath the sleeve, though pulsating as strongly as ever.

The Symphonic Dances, a lightweight symphony designed for a ballet, seem to me the crown of all Rachmaninov's music, masterly themes, ideally balanced, personal, exquisitely imagined for orchestra, purged of romantic pretentiousness. The sensuous music, whether subsidiary or principal in importance, remains entirely characteristic, but has sometimes seemed influenced by Hollywood musicals of the 1930s.

Ashkenazy's reading, the work of an experienced Rachmaninov specialist, supported that idea, and the notion of the work's symphonic poetry. The movements contrasted more firmly than usual, each new idea given its own personality, fully fledged, for example the violin melody at the end of the first dance, and the alto saxophone solo (John Harle's style was recognizable, before I looked at the plaform or the programme).

It was a superior reading, likewise that of Scriabin's "Reverie", an early, sensuous piece of which Ashkenazy made surprisingly much, by colouring and rubato, for an English listener quite close to favourite Delius short works of the same period, the turn of the century. Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony was affectionately done, with feathery strings, and liquid wind solos. Not all details were audible in any of the three works, even some essential harmony notes.

William Mann

Australian CO
Wigmore Hall

The vigour of Australian enterprise is not something that this paper finds extraordinary, yet even so it was a distinct pleasure to find an ensemble from Sydney performing so strongly at their British debut concert on Thursday. The Australian Chamber Orchestra are a tight group of 13 string players who prove that a conductor is an unnecessary luxury when smallness of size coincides with completeness of musicianship. They bounced as one through the children's games of Britten's *Simple Symphony* right at the start of their programme, and had no problems even with the fizzing tempo they chose for the finale of Mendelssohn's ninth string symphony.

Nor did they need anyone to encourage them to produce a big, full tone or to guide them in elegance of phrasing. The sound came forward with an almost corporeal presence and depth, though with a cleanness of attack that kept it from being at all stodgy, and, particularly again in the Mendelssohn, there was a confident grasp of how important proportion and weight are to the projection of melody. Given their skill here, I would have liked to have heard them in some real baroque and classical music, not just in Mendelssohn's very appealing counterfeits.

The only other possible disappointment was that an orchestra from half way round the world should sound so little different in terms of musical approach from one nearer home, but merely better. That, however, is a comment on the standardization of our musical culture, and there was at least a taste of regional fare in Peter Sculthorpe's *Lament*, composed for this ensemble in 1976.

I had heard nothing of Sculthorpe since the 1960s, when he was into south-east Asian music and bright simple soundscapes. Evidently things have changed. This *Lament* — claimed by the composer as one of his favourite recent works, which was nice to know — has more to do with Brahms than Bali. It is a very unambitious, little, slow movement dwelling on a cello theme that Sculthorpe would like to think reveals "a characteristic debt to Mahler", perhaps forgetting that Mahler's ideas tended to be considerably more sophisticated and very much more fully developed.

Paul Griffiths

ECO/Kraemer
Queen Elizabeth Hall

The first movement of Mozart's Symphony No 33 was given a dance-like lilt by Nicholas Kraemer and the English Chamber Orchestra on Friday. Yet there was no lack of due weight, least of all in the development section, where the composer appears to indulge some stray anticipations of the finale of the Jupiter Symphony. The Andante, although the ECO strings produced a lively tone, as usual, just missed the requisite warmth, but the Minuet sounded quite bucolic.

After music with such an Austrian accent, No 33's finale seems almost like a tarantella, although Mr Kraemer unobtrusively pointed the difference between the hurtling triplets and the movement's underlying 2/4 pulse. Such finesse of ensemble was not immediately apparent in Mozart's Piano Concerto No 27, and some features of the opening tutti were less decisively shaped than one might have wished. Michele Beogner started rather prosaically, too, and there were some flat and literal statements from the keyboard.

However, things gradually warmed up, if one may use such an expression of music as angelic as this. What happened was that the major/minor key equivocations of the development section drew ever more engaged playing from soloist and orchestra. Not surprisingly, this carried over into the Larghetto, where from the start, both Miss Boegner and the ECO achieved a poise and depth of expression that were rather exceptional.

The economical virtuosity the pianist displayed in Mozart's finale served different ends in Fauré's early Ballade. This is a one-movement piece in which the soloist is constantly at work, but the expression is predominantly lyrical. Despite the successful aspects of the Mozart performance, one felt that Miss Boegner had a closer affinity with Fauré and it was a pleasure to hear the Ballade.

Finally came Richard Strauss's *Metamorphosen*. "Autumnal" scarcely seems a strong enough word for this highly wrought lament, especially as Mr Kraemer's reading showed how powerfully motivated it is.

Max Harrison

Nash Ensemble
Wigmore Hall

A programme emphasizing the known rather than the obscure or forgotten drew an outsize audience on Saturday night for the last of the Nash Ensemble's six concerts that have played so stimulating a part in the current Russian series at Wigmore Hall.

Looking back over the varied assortment of works permitted by this group's apparently limitless instrumental permutations, surely gratitude is primarily due for the rareties taken down from library shelves. Though Saturday night's act of rescue was disappointingly insubstantial in comparison with earlier discoveries, opportunities of hearing student exercises by Tchaikovsky are rare. He was already in his early twenties when writing the two brief fragments opening this programme, and obviously no *Wunderkind*. The extract for string quintet was tantalizing because spooky undertones of real dramatic potential were left undeveloped. As for the Introduction (Largo) and Allegro for string quintet and two flutes, it was as if he set out to emulate Berlioz only to make off to the ballet. The group's string players found more of an imaginative challenge here than in Mozart's Clarinet Quintet, though Antony Pay's tone was as melting as his phrasing was suave.

Mussorgsky's *Songs and Dances of Death* from Thomas Allen and the group's pianist, Ian Brown, was nevertheless what we were all waiting for. A Russian bass would probably have made more of a meal of the language in graphic story-telling. Mr Allen's victory was the way he dissolved Russian words into a mellifluous flow emphasizing the lyrical element never wholly suppressed in Mussorgsky. He reminded us that these are songs, not extracts from opera, while still able to call on operatic reserves of strength for the final "The Field-Marshal".

In Stravinsky's Octet, the Nash Ensemble in their turn reminded us that wind players have never had a greater benefactor than this Russian wizard. It was right, in 1982, that he should have had the last word.

Joan Chissell

Dance

Swan Lake
Covent Garden

Swan Lake returned to the Covent Garden repertory on Saturday. While this production, supervised by Norman Morrice, cannot compete with the version recently premièred by the Sadler's Wells company for drama, logic, or straightforward theatricality, it does have some solid merits. There are Leslie Hurry's designs (though I am not sure that these are the very best version) and there is the fact that, by not taking a very positive dramatic viewpoint, Morrice gives the leading characters the opportunity to allow their personal interpretations to shine through more clearly.

David Wall has probably danced the role of Siegfried more often than any other member of the company, yet he still manages to bring to every performance the feeling that this, above all others, is the important one. Never for a moment does he allow his characterization to slip; he is completely involved with his partner, the courtiers, his mother, whatever the action requires. In his solos in Acts I and III he was dancing as strongly and as stylishly as I can ever remember and his partnering was secure and sympathetic. Not that all the honours for male dancing should go to Wall. In the pas de quatre Michael Batchelor and Phillip Broomhead gave the best performance I have seen for a long time and Ravenna Tucker was charming in the first girl's variation.

Nice performances also came from Fiona Chadwick and Rosalyn Whitten in the pas de trois, although I wish Whitten could look a little less worried when she dances.

Marguerite Porter certainly has the looks for the role of the Swan Queen. Tall, dark and slender, with large, expressive eyes, she looks charming in her swan feathers. What she seems to lack, however, is a clear view of the character of the role, or the means to put her idea across. She also appeared to be having difficulties with the technical demands of Act III. Perhaps working with Nureyev for their performance later this month may help her.

Judith Cruickshank

Why we are backing Tebbit's bad Bill

by Brian Capstick

A member of the SDP Trade Union Reform Group

Social Democratic MPs will vote tonight with the Government in support of the Employment Bill, some of them reluctantly so because, despite its popularity with the electorate, the Bill is unlikely to do much to improve industrial relations. For the most part, it re-enacts the battles of years gone by, using the weapons of the period, and is largely irrelevant to the contemporary industrial relations scene.

The Bill's main provisions relate to trade union immunities and the closed shop, and in both cases its principal innovation is to open up the possibility of big cash prizes for the successful litigant. For the first time in recent years the Bill exposes unions themselves to legal action, so that employers who are victims of secondary or political action which the union has authorized can recover damages from the union's institutional funds.

In principle there is no reason why the Queen's Writ should stop at the door of Transport House, but the problem is that by aiming, as Mr. Len Murray put it, "at the heart" of the union movement, the Government is striking at the wrong organ. The heart of the trade union movement is a sclerotic but generally responsible affair, which is often seen at its liveliest when superannuation is on the agenda. The real mischief in industrial relations is wrought not by the heart but by the arms and legs of the trade union movement, the local groups of activists and militant shop stewards. Mr. Tebbit's Bill will do nothing to restrain their activity, and may even encourage it.

One life-line which besieged employers have relied upon in the past is the (diminishing) influence which full-time union officials may bring to bear on shop-floor mavericks but, by putting union funds at risk through the activities of full-time officials, the Bill may force them to retire from the scene and make unofficial action even more difficult for employers to control.

As it happens, there is an incipient branch of law which may help employers to curtail unofficial action by groups of militants, and which does not touch the unions as such. Instead, it allows employers to be much more flexible in their response to selective strikes than they can be now. An example is the Engineering Employers' Federation's proposal for lay-offs in selective strike situations, a possibility which is absent from the Bill but which is now being actively considered by the Social Democratic Party.

Another difficulty has been foreseen by Mr Tebbit himself. It is that union coffers are generally light, and unlimited awards of damages would soon bankrupt many of them. Even Mr Tebbit appears reluctant to do away altogether with his traditional sparring partners, and has therefore put a financial limit on what may be recovered in any given proceedings. Unfortunately, the law relating to industrial disputes is rife with situations where half a dozen different plaintiffs may start action as the result of the same or connected incidents.

A number of different proceedings makes nonsense from the union's point of view of any limit imposed on each one of them, and damages of millions of pounds could easily mount up as the result of a single incident.

A related problem has to do with the sheer complexity of modern labour law. No more than a handful of lawyers really understand it and most of them disagree with each other, with the result that a committee of trade union officials has a slim chance indeed of coming to grips with it successfully.

The consequence is that unions are at least as likely to stumble unwittingly into costly legal action as they are wilfully to flout the law which can hardly be the intention of a measure designed to tame the unruly behaviour of the overmighty subject.

One solution to these difficulties might be to allow unions to be sued in injunction proceedings, and only to allow their funds to be at risk if they subsequently disregarded any injunction issued against them.

The second limb of the Bill beefs up the compensation to be paid to the victims of the closed shop. What is most lacking in the Bill, and in almost all discussion of it, is a sense of proportion about this issue. The worst evils of the closed shop, such as the well-known British Rail cases, are largely a thing of the past and were due as much to management ineptitude as to union militancy. Most modern union membership agreements allow for extensive exemptions, and dismissals for non-membership are rare, being frequently provoked by the "victim" when they do occur.

What the Bill does is to provide tax-free awards of between three and four years' net pay (average income) for closed shop victims, a generous award by any standards and difficult to justify by comparison with the paltry awards handed out in race or sex discrimination cases or unfair dismissal cases generally.

The Bill also introduces the idea of five-yearly reviews by ballot, a proposal which dismays some employers because of the union militancy which the prospect of such a ballot is bound to encourage; and the damage done to stable collective bargaining if the result is a split into multi-unionism. One is hard put to see what need there is for these ballots when genuine conscientious objectors already have a quite independent right to opt out of the union and claim the same compensation if they are dismissed.

In many respects, therefore, the Bill is ill thought-out, but then, as one MP remarked, most bills are, and this seldom deters governments. On balance, the feeling of the SDP is that the Bill's basic provisions for compensation for closed shop victims and some limit on union immunities are along acceptable lines, but that the Bill is sadly irrelevant to the more pressing issues of the day.

Its potential for harm could be very much reduced by amending some of its details with the result that the SDP's best course is to support the Bill, albeit with reservations, and promise a review of the legislation if, as some predict, the cure turns out to be worse than the disease.

You can't keep the middle classes down

What has happened to the British bourgeoisie to make its members bounce back into a state of vitality and confidence?

Five or six years ago it was almost impossible to open a newspaper or switch on television without being told that the species was facing extinction. I fear that I may have started this wave of pessimism with an article which appeared in *The Times* in December, 1974, under the title: "The Question Mark Hanging over the Future of the Middle Classes". A leader the following month on "The Anger of the Middle Class" thundered about the danger of a middle-class revolt.

An Independent Television documentary in June, 1975, was entitled "The Mangling of the Middle Classes", while the American magazine *Newsweek* devoted the cover and much of the contents to its issue of November 1, 1976, to "Britain's Battered Middle Classes". In the same month Morley Safer, the American commentator, told the audience of a CBS programme on the state of Britain, "The rich still eat their strawberries and cream, the workers are lazy, the middle class has nowhere to turn, having been bled white by high taxes and 20 and 30 per cent inflation".

Faced by the serious prospect of an assault on their living standards and institutions by a Labour government apparently committed to socialist egalitarianism, the middle classes responded by a mixture of embarrassment and apology. They were still suffering the guilt feelings engendered by the social and intellectual revolt of the 1960s.

The fate of the Middle Class Association, a campaigning pressure group set up by John Gorst, Conservative MP for Hendon North, in the autumn of 1974, illustrates how widespread these guilt feelings were. From the outset it was bedevilled by doubts among the membership about its name. Gorst saw those doubts as symptomatic of the dire straits into which the middle classes themselves had fallen. "My colleagues in Parliament blush when you mention middle class", he said. "They can't call a spade a spade any more, although they still talk of the working class."

The late Patrick Hutber summed up the view of many when he wrote in his book, *The Decline and Fall of the Middle Class*, published at the end of 1976: "Never has a section of society more enthusiastically co-operated in its own euthenasia. If the characteristic attitude of the middle class has to be summed up in a single phrase, it would surely be the words, 'I'm awfully sorry but you're treading on my foot'."

The mood now is totally changed. Members of the bourgeoisie hold their heads high again and no longer feel the need to be ashamed of being middle-class. Perhaps more important, while the overall state of the British economy has continued to worsen since the mid-1970s, the relative position of the middle classes has actually improved. A survey by the Institute of Fiscal Studies of the first year of Mrs Thatcher's Government, for example, found that even the hard-pressed and complaining civil servants had enjoyed a rise of ten per cent in their standard of living while skilled manual workers had suffered a fall of six per cent.

The brunt of the hardship brought about by the world-wide economic recession and exacerbated by the Government's rigid adherence to monetarism has been borne by the working classes. Although it is true that a growing number of small businessmen are facing bankruptcy, and that the spectre of redundancy is looming over some of the professions, the fact remains that unemployment is still an overwhelmingly working-class experience.

Throughout the twentieth century the middle classes have remained consistently better off, better treated at work and healthier than the working classes. They have longer holidays, lower blood pressures, thinner figures and higher incomes than the national average. They have also, in a society which is supposedly becoming more classless, held their commanding positions in the major institutions of the country. The proportion of those in the higher echelons of the Establishment, such as judges and senior civil servants, who were educated at public schools has actually increased over the postwar period.

Could another factor in the regained confidence of the bourgeoisie be the psychological boost given by Mrs Thatcher's election victory in 1979? After all, her election campaign involved a passionate appeal to middle class values and a repudiation of the bourgeois guilt implanted by left-wing commentators and intellectuals, Were not the Conservatives put into power to make the middle classes respectable (and rich) again?

In fact, studies of the pattern of voting in 1979 show that it was not the case that the middle classes rallied to Mrs Thatcher. The swing to the Conservatives was actually highest among skilled manual workers in the C2 socio-economic class. In the professional and managerial AB classes there was actually a swing of 1.5 per cent to Labour.

It is also doubtful if it is Thatcherism that has been primarily responsible for restoring the middle classes' sense of well-being and confidence. One of the main ways in which those in professional and technical occupations have increased their earnings and maintained their differentials from blue-collar workers has been by recourse to the distinctly un-Thatcherite weapon of trade union militancy.

There is also a strong case for saying that the middle classes have saved themselves from decline not by returning to the traditional bourgeois ethic of enterprise, ambition and commercial drive extolled by Mrs Thatcher, but by pursuing rather different values. A growing number of professional people are deciding to trade money for leisure and to accept a lower material standard of living than their counterparts abroad.

In a poll carried out for *The Times* in June 1980, 60 per cent of middle-class respondents (compared to only 43 per cent from the working classes) said they would not work longer hours for more money; 61.5 per cent (50.5) said that they had no ambition to be rich, and 30.5 per cent (18) said that they had no ambition to earn more than their present earnings.

The middle classes led Britain into the Industrial Revolution and developed the work ethic as a necessary basis for life in an industrial society. It may well be that they will also lead the country into a post-industrial society where a new and much less narrow philosophy of life will be needed.

Ian Bradley

Ian Bradley's book The English Middle Classes are Alive and Kicking *is published today by Collins, price £6.95.*

Petrol: must our children still be poisoned?

by Des Wilson



Traffic pollution at its worst: in Britain 90 per cent of all airborne lead comes from petrol.

I was angered all last week after being handed a confidential letter by the nation's top medical adviser to senior Whitehall colleagues which warned in uninhibited language of the danger to children from lead in petrol.

Had the letter been made public at the time that it was written, we would now be on our way to lead-free petrol and our CLEAR (the Campaign for Lead-free Air) campaign would never have been necessary.

It is a highly significant letter for three reasons:

● First, while ministers continue to say that there is no convincing evidence that low-level exposure to lead is a real threat to health, their own chief medical officer, Sir Henry Yellowlees, put himself emphatically on the record a year ago that "there is a strong likelihood that lead in petrol is permanently reducing the IQ of many of our children". No one can any longer claim that there is no high-level opinion opposed to the use of lead in petrol.

Ministers have to make a choice. They either continue to quote the report of the Lawther committee as evidence that lead in petrol is not the main cause of lead pollution, or they have to accept the advice of their chief medical officer. Yellowlees and Lawther so contradict each other that there is no room for compromise in their views.

● Secondly, those who have up to now criticized the Lawther report have been accused of not being open to reason. That accusation can no longer be made. The letter adds up to a complete rejection of the fundamental approach and conclusions of the Lawther committee.

Lawther's report denied the link between lead in petrol and lead in food.

Sir Henry Yellowlees, on the other hand, says "lead in petrol is a major contributor to blood lead acting through the food chain as well as by inhalation".

● Thirdly, the chief medical officer's letter admits that "there is no doubt that the simplest and quickest way of reducing general population exposure to lead is by reducing sharply or entirely eliminating lead in petrol". In this he contradicts ministers who still seek to pinpoint other aspects of lead pollution as the more serious problem.

I find it deeply disturbing, as I believe many MPs will, that such powerfully worded advice should have been restricted to a few permanent secretaries, and possibly to one or two ministers. The use of lead in petrol is an issue of considerable public concern. It is probably the major public health controversy in this country today.

If I am correct in believing that its publication would have caused a public outcry and forced the phasing out of lead in petrol, then its confidentiality contributed to a disastrous decision. We, the taxpayers, employ the chief medical officer, not his Whitehall masters. Do we not have a right to the publication of his advice on such matters before and not after it is watered down or filed away in Whitehall? (In fact, this kind of affair emphasizes the need in this country for an independently run environmental protection agency as in the United States to maintain surveillance on public health matters outside of the influence of the Whitehall bureaucracy).

Of course, Whitehall will claim that Sir Henry Yellowlees does not actually call for a complete ban, but surely the strength of his feeling ("the risk to children is now shown to be too great for me to take any other course") and the nature of the risk he spells out speak for themselves. It is also the case that shortly after Sir Henry's letter was written lead levels in petrol were set for reduction by 1985, but they have been reduced *five times* and on each of the previous four it was later decided that the reduction was inadequate.

Other countries, the United States, Japan and, most recently, Australia, have all shown that lead-free petrol is perfectly possible and all have acted on the health evidence.

In Australia, as in Britain, the petrochemical industry fought the decision to ban lead in petrol by decrying the health evidence and exaggerating the costs and difficulties. It produced estimates of the costs that were proved to have been exaggerated five times. The Australians, however, to quote Sir Henry's words, "opted for lead-free petrol ...despite the substantial costs and the energy penalties so incurred".

What are the facts behind the lead in petrol debate?

● Lead is a neurotoxin, a brain poison. Between 7,500 and 10,000 tonnes of it are emitted into the air over Britain every year from car exhausts. It is not disputed that 90 per cent of all airborne lead comes from petrol.

● As the chief medical officer confirms, there is a steady line of evidence, study reinforcing study, that at low levels of lead exposure, children, who are four to five times more vulnerable than adults to its toxic effects, can be adversely affected. They can become easily distracted, hyperactive, difficult to control, or suffer from reduced intelligence. There is also evidence of a link between lead in pregnant women and stillbirths. That evidence has convinced other countries and has convinced a growing number of doctors and scientists in Britain too.

● The claim that a move to the limit of 0.15 grams per litre by 1985 is the quickest way of reducing lead levels is nonsense. By far the most effective way is to do what the Australians plan to do and reduce lead levels for *existing cars* to 0.15 grams per litre while insisting that within four years all *new cars* be manufactured to take lead-free petrol and all petrol stations be required to supply it. This is perfectly possible. Other countries have done it — can anyone really claim that the Japanese car manufacturers have suffered? Indeed, some British car manufacturers are already manufacturing cars to take lead-free petrol for export markets that demand it.

● The obstacle to a ban on the use of lead in petrol is the enormous behind-the-scenes influence of the petroleum and car manufacturing industries on Whitehall, where Energy and Treasury officials have been particularly closely allied with the economic case. The problem is that all the estimates come from the industries concerned, yet in every country where this issue has been debated these industries have exaggerated the problems.

I have referred to the Australian case earlier. In West Germany, for instance, they said it would cost DM1,000m to modify refineries to reduce the lead limit; in fact it cost DM300m, 30 per cent of their initial estimate. Powerful vested interests are being pitted against the health and wellbeing of our children and as is so often the case the economic interests are winning the day.

That evidence is even more complete now that the chief medical officer's opinion is publicly known. In my view the case is now unanswerable, not that there ever was a defence for distributing a poison over our cities in this irresponsible way. Were someone to propose it for the first time today, especially now that the full health effects are known, he would be given short shrift. These industries must be told that the practice is to be stopped as soon as possible.

Will it cost twopence, or threepence or fourpence more a gallon of petrol? Possibly. In any event I cannot believe that the parents of this country would put the performance of their cars before the performance of their children. Rather I would answer this question with another. Is the mental health of our children negotiable?

Des Wilson is chairman of CLEAR, the Campaign for Lead-free Air

THE TIMES DIARY



With sorrow I learn that the Playboy bunnies are about to bounce their last down Park Lane, where the new management seek a less risqué image. I have a theory — the last time I sought to air it Victor Lownes tried to stop me publishing and ban me from the club — that their uniform of cramped corset, cotton tail and floppy ears was devised only to make the waitresses appear so ridiculous they had to be polite to the customers to prove they were still human.

In my limited experience, with their knees-bend called the Bunny Dip, Kleenexes stuffed down their decolletage and Scotch tape in strategic places, they were unfailingly polite and efficient, the next best thing to Lyons' nippies.

Whip hand in medical research

The next director of the National Institute for Medical Research is to be the man who brought you Instant Whip. Dr David Allan Rees, who has been nominated to head the Medical Research Council's largest non-clinical research establishment, with a budget of £8m and a staff of 600, has hitherto been principal scientist to Unilever.

He researched the structure and biochemistry of polysaccharides, and discovered a process by which otherwise fluid materials could be given physical shape. It is now standard technique in the manufacture of soft ice cream and instant desserts.

"Dai" Rees has had connexions with the Medical Research Council for the past two years as part-time co-director of its biophysics unit at King's College, London. He recently played an important part in suggesting a new management structure for the institute at Mill Hill, to which he will move in September.

He will succeed Sir Arnold Burgen, who is leaving to become Master of Darwin College, Cambridge.

Yankee know-how

"In my view British newspapers are wholly inadequate, lacking in background and often biased." This wounding declaration, luckily, comes from a figment of someone's imagination — a managing director invented by *Newsweek* for an advertisement puffing the magazine's bulk subscription service. The man, who seems to be an opinionated nincompoop, says his company is so dependent on imported oil that executives "cannot afford to be ignorant of the day-by-day political developments in the Middle East." He recommends *Newsweek* for facts and background.

Biased as I am, I suggest there is inadequate background here to explain how a weekly publication is to help in understanding developments day-by-day. The issue containing the ad offers on the Middle East only a sketchy story about Syrian training camps in Iran and a speculative piece on possible civil war in Sinai. Neither mentions oil.

In the debate as to whether a statue of Stanley Baldwin should be placed on one of two vacant plinths remaining in the members' lobby of the House of Commons, supporters of Margaret Thatcher have but one concern — that there should be a pedestal left for her.

Silent service

Sir Richard O'Brien, the chairman of the Manpower Services Commission whom Norman Tebbitt put on his bike last week, is the last man who could be accused of disloyalty or indiscretion. A few years ago he refused to show the Commons select committee on employment the MSC's annual corporate plan on the ground that it contained confidential figures. He maintained his defiance until ministerial permission to release the document had been obtained. The joke was that then none of the journalists he was so anxious to keep in the dark noticed the information anyway.

Warming

One thing remains to be said about the triumph of Britain's ice dance champions, Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, in retaining their European title at Lyon. Despite the worst that abysmal French television presentation could do, it was still wonderful to watch at home — a welcome change from crawling cricket, heaving horses' bottoms, the waistcoated dandy dicks who play snooker, and the collision of beer bellies before a dartboard.

Though not inaccurate, commentator Alan Weekes can still be inept — "fourth in Europe, third in the world" he told us of the British pair's Russian rivals — but even he got it absolutely right: "This is beautiful to watch." Congratulations.

Winning idea

Another glittering prize for aspiring authors — the £5,000 Sinclair-Browne award — and here are the hints to help you get it. Just write another *Animal Farm*, *Middlemarch* or *Hard Times*. A mish-mash of all three probably would not do.

The publishing partnership of Patrick Browne, owner of a Cambridge bookshop, and Clive Sinclair, of the computer firm, offer the award for the manuscript of the best full-length novel "of social and political significance." Browne says they want to tempt authors away from the inward agonies of the individual psyche and back to the English tradition of political satire or novels with some real social background. Good luck to them.

Musical names

What have the Prince of Wales, the Prime Minister, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Mayor of London, the Duke of Westminster and Lord Rosebery in common? Well, you may be right, but what I had in mind was that they were all at St James's Palace on February 28, 1882, to found the Royal College of Music.

They will all be there again, in the form of Prince Charles, Margaret Thatcher, Dr Runcie et al on February 28 to recreate the scene as part of the college's centenary celebrations. Also there will be successors or descendants of all the others recorded in the pages of *The Illustrated London News* as having attended the inaugural meeting.

At last somebody has defined the value of a psychiatrist. A man holding hostages at gunpoint at St Jude Research Hospital, Memphis, released one of them — a psychiatrist — in return for five hamburgers, five cheeseburgers and some potato crisps.

How fair?

Suspicion can be worse than proven guilt. Last week a car dealer was prosecuted for offering credit facilities without having a licence to do so from the Office of Fair Trading. Another company, which did have a licence, was charged as his accomplice, and fines in the cases totalled more than £11,000.

The curious thing is that the Office of Fair Trading were specifically withholding a licence from the dealer when the offences were committed because they wanted to make further investigations about his company, Puremark Ltd, which trades as the Sandwell Car Centre in West Bromwich. The licence has been issued since, and now the Office of Fair Trading say it will not necessarily be revoked.

If it is not, it will be like magistrates turning a blind eye to the fact that someone has been selling alcohol without a licence on the grounds that he was not giving short measure.

Off licence

Women's rights champion Anna Coote has compromised her conscience and accepted half a box of claret bought from El Vino, the Fleet Street drinking hole which all right-thinking feminists are supposed to boycott for its refusal to serve women at the bar.

It came as payment for a contribution to *Punch* — a story about how Nicholas Fairbairn, the Scottish Solicitor-General who fell from grace, once made a pass at her in the deserted waiting room of an Edinburgh birth control clinic he had just opened. The incident happened 14 years ago, and Coote has been, if not dining out, at least light lunching on it at intervals ever since. It was very honourable of *Punch* to pay for such a tired tale, even in wine of however doubtful provenance.



Anna Coote: compromising

It was not magic which produced a shower of fine bone-china dinner plates at the end of Paul Daniels' run at the Prince of Wales theatre. It was Wedgwood. Daniels presented plates, specially commissioned to commemorate his It's Magic *show, to everyone on the theatre staff.*

Stamped on

Members of Parliament enjoy the benefits of free post, but the perk does not work in reverse. Des Wilson, the pushful spirit behind CLEAR, the campaign for lead-free petrol, wanted to tote a sack of 635 letters down to Westminster, one for each MP. He does not shirk where publicity is concerned.

The plan was stalled by Sergeant at Arms' rules that visitors to the Commons can deliver only one letter by hand at a time. Not even charities can save their 15½ps by delivering in bulk because, as Commons' staff reasonably explain, they have no sorting office.

PHS

THE TIMES

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SELL! SELL! SELL!

Nothing symbolizes the contrast between the public and private sectors quite as neatly as the events at Laker and British Airways last week. Laker, with a record of cutting costs and prices to the bone, was forced into liquidation. British Airways, which has been notoriously slow to cut its manning levels to world standards, was allowed to borrow an extra £53m under government guarantee.

Nothing would have been gained by converting Laker Airways into a pensioner of the state. But we can ensure that more of elements now in the public sector, are taken out and exposed in future to the disciplines of the market. The Government's record so far has been disappointing. It has done little and plans less. The sales so far have been on the periphery, with the highly successful exception of the 51 per cent stake in British Aerospace. Over the next three years the Treasury is expecting asset sales of only £1,500m, a sign of the extent to which the early hopes of the Government have trickled into the sand.

The problems of Laker seem to have given new impetus to the Government's hopes of privatizing British Airways. These have been blown off course by the large losses which have been incurred in recent years by BA in common with other companies in the world airline industry. Loss makers are never easy to sell; loss makers in an industry where everyone is losing money are clearly unsaleable.

However, the losses are not the whole story. Some of the features about BA which contribute to those losses are the results of bad management over the years.

A vicious circle has grown up. The company's losses mean that it cannot be sold off, while the fact that it cannot be sold off has become an extra reason for postponing the moves to create efficiency which it badly needs. The Government ought to take urgent steps to put this right. Parts of the business, such as the helicopter operations, could be sold off even in today's difficult circumstances. For the rest, what is needed is a firm commitment to sell off the operation within the lifetime of this Parliament and a timetable to make sure that happens. The Government will have to accept that much of the money currently counted as loans to British Airways will have to be converted into equity if the flotation is to succeed.

A similar approach is needed in other parts of the public sector. The Government has not been good at converting its desires into action in such fields as the fringe activites of the railways, including hotels and ferries. There are large parts of the public sector which cannot and should not be privatised. The railways are an essential public service and have to remain in public hands. Most of the gas and electricity industry fits the same description. Those industries which remain in the public sector must be encouraged to become more efficient and allowed to carry out the investment they need to become efficient. There is no sense in keeping an industry in the public sector and then depriving it of the means to do its job properly.

But the need to give those concerns which are legitimately part of the public sector proper access to funds makes it all the more urgent to open up to private capital those which can be run privately. No one should expect that selling off British Airways or the country's gas showrooms will produce miraculous gains in efficiency. Some of the companies which go into private hands will fail. But others will get the chance to grow by giving the public better service.

Nor should the success of the programme be considered solely by how much money the Government succeeds in raising from it. The proper location of the boundary between public and private industry is one of the Government's most important and hitherto least successful, areas of operation. It ought to show greater determination in its efforts to push on with privatization.

THE SOUR SMELL OF EL SALVADOR

El Salvador has now become a major issue in the United States, with sharp differences in Congress over what policy should be. Even within the Reagan Administration there are differences of emphasis between Mr Haig, who has made a point of talking tough about possible military action, and Mr Weinberger, who has let it be known that he is less hawkish; while the right is beginning to be critical of Mr Haig for not matching his words with action. The reason is a simple one. Things are going badly in El Salvador, with a mounting death toll from the virtual civil war and the economy badly shaken. And there are grounds for fearing that by becoming more involved, the United States may be repeating the mistakes it made in Vietnam.

The basic preoccupation of the Administration is understandable. It does not want to see a domino process in Central America, beginning with El Salvador and ending with a string of hostile leftist regimes, all allied to Cuba. It believes, therefore, that it has to do everything necessary to support, or even prop up, the present Salvadorean Government, regardless of its shortcomings. So Washington is prepared to turn a blind eye to the blatant violations of human rights, which have led to the cold-blooded killings of thousands of people on mere suspicion of sympathy for the guerrillas. And it is making the most of the regime's virtues — the presence in it of President Duarte, powerless though he is to stem the repression, and its aspirations to carry out agrarian and other reforms.

The trouble is that the policy is not working. It is simply not possible to present a regime with such a murderous record as democratic. And next month's elections will not alter that fact, because it is not possible to hold fair and open elections in an atmosphere of repression like that in El Salvador today. More critically, the regime is even having difficulty in holding its own against the guerrillas on the military front. The guerrillas are entrenched in various parts of the country, and they recently achieved a spectacular coup when they succeeded in blowing up helicopters within a military base. The prospect, therefore, is of a prolonged and bloody stalemate, in which neither the regime nor the guerrillas is able to win a clear victory, and in which there is more and more death and misery among the population; or else of victory for the guerrillas.

It would clearly be unreasonable to expect Washington simply to cut off all aid to the Salvadorian government. That would mean virtually handing the country over to the guerrillas. But it should use the leverage that it has, by virtue of the regime's dependence on it, to force a more constructive course. It should bring more pressure to bear on the Salvadorean army to end its atrocities. And above all, it should force the regime to give up its refusal to negotiate with the guerrillas. The guerrillas themselves have now proposed negotiations, which they previously refused, and such negotiations have been widely backed, both inside and outside El Salvador, as the only way to resolve the country's difficulties.

Such a course would be hard for the Reagan administration to accept, because of its reluctance to have dealings with Marxists. But it has to recognize the realities of Central America today, and the fact that there is a surge of opposition to the military regimes which held power for so long, with their close links to the United States. This opposition is helped by Cuba, and suits Cuba's purposes; but it has not been created either by Havana or by Moscow, and mere repression will not eliminate it. If Washington is prepared to deal with these new forces, in El Salvador, Nicaragua and elsewhere, it should be able to achieve a *modus vivendi* with them. If it is not, it is liable to find in the long run that its worst fears have been realized and that, like Cuba in the 1960's they have turned to Moscow.

David Wood

Reporting Parliament by half

To say that the reporting of Commons debates is not what it was might appear to be a calculated reflection on the quality or industry of the new generation of coal-face workers in the press gallery. No such slight is intended. In fact I would say that the average level of gallery ability at Westminster today is higher than in the years immediately after the 1939-45 War, when men in demob suits were remobilizing their Pitman's shorthand and desperately remembering everything they had ever known about politics and politicians.

I should say, rather, that there has been a marked change in the reporting of parliamentary debates and then add, while acquitting the reporters, that the change is not necessarily helpful. What precisely has happened and why? In short, nearly every London and provincial morning paper nowadays reports only half of each Commons sitting, and those whose business or interest it is to follow public affairs must increasingly wait for *Hansard* (which also has early deadlines) to arm themselves with the text of speeches delivered after supper time. Refer any day to *The Guardian* or *The Daily Telegraph* in particular.

Long-serving politicians are clearly puzzled that newspaper priorities for parliamentary, as distinct from political, reporting have shifted to question time and statements, which occur before tea time, and rarely to the opening speeches in a debate. No wonder. They remember, as do many reporters who grew grey in the gallery, that the red meat of politics used to be flung into the cage late at night, in wind-up speeches and during long sittings into the small hours next day.

That was when Commons theatre produced its high drama and low comedy. That was when tired governments got ambushed in the division lobbies, when Barbara Castle and George Wigg planned the public downfall of John Profumo, when George Brown had to be begged by friends not to resign, when 10 Downing Street announced at 2.45am that British troops would land in Jordan 75 minutes later, when Iain Macleod, the new Chancellor, suddenly died, and when Clem Attlee announced he would fly to Washington to stop the Americans using the atomic bomb during the Korean war.

At that time London newspapers kept open their parliamentary reports until the last edition was about to roll; and *The Times*, with its strict rule that the gallery "box" should never be left empty no matter how long the House sat, always reopened the parliamentary page to give the time of "who goes home?" or even to say that the Commons still sat.

It seems to me, following politics one remove from the press gallery, that the reporting of half a parliamentary sitting even in some heavy papers carries risks of distortion, and their readers deserve some explanation — much as the readers of many provincial evening papers, which now roll off main editions before the Commons even prays and sits, needs some explanation of the total absence of any Westminster news except political comment, usually speculative or peripheral. Television and radio news flashes, with slots measured in seconds rather than minutes, are no subtitute for the printed word if politics are to be taken as a serious study or interest.

The change for the worse in parliamentary reporting, on all the evidence to hand, is to be explained partly by the ills that management is heir to in Fleet Street, partly by the decline in the standing of Parliament and parliamentarians, and partly by the blessings of a new printing technology that I no more love than understand.

This is no place, or this is not the typewriter, to discuss why both evening and morning newspapers throughout Britain, facing competition from instant news on radio, have brought forward their edition deadlines at a time when their transparent interest must have been to put them back. But they have done so, obviously for sound managerial reasons.

Nor does the new technology, so far, provide a solution. It tends to turn breakfast editions of Fleet Street papers into late editions of the evening paper, as it flagrantly does on the Continent. It also tends to pass control of the news flow from the reporter on the spot to technologists, who understandably want the alternating trickles and cataracts of news to reach their desks in an orderly way. ("Dear George, please don't resign after midnight — the new technology can't cope with it").

One answer would be attractive to some, though not many, politicians: a radio channel wholly devoted to reporting parliamentary debates. Yet that is clearly not the answer. No students of politics can spend all their working hours listening to the *longueurs* of a debate, waiting for their special point of interest; and no one listening to the spoken word, however experienced, can manage without a printed text, perhaps summarized and sensibly explained.

In the end, politics and politicians need the press as much as ever, and we must hope that the press will continue to feel they need Parliament. That is not the way most of the press now seem to follow.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

British stance on EEC Budget

From Mr Robert Jackson, MEP for Upper Thames (Conservative)

Sir, The tone of Wednesday's Commons exchange about the European Budget (Parliamentary report, February 4) suggests that there may be a serious misunderstanding of the issues at stake.

The main point does not relate to the relatively trivial amounts of money over which the Council contends Parliament was acting *ultra vires* in adding to the 1982 Budget. This will cost Britain some £2.5m gross a month — but in net terms Britain should make a profit from this spending, including £9m for housing in Belfast.

Rather, the central issue concerns Parliament's attempts to challenge the way in which Community expenditure is "classified", with the effect of limiting its budgetary powers over so-called "obligatory" expenditure on the common agricultural policy.

It is notorious that the CAP is not subject to proper budgetary control, leading to a 23 per cent annual growth in expenditure between 1976 and 1979. The Council has so far consistently been unable to resolve this problem within itself, either by obliging agricultural ministers to take account of the financial costs of their decisions, or by agreeing upon new and less costly policies. And, of course, this weakness of financial discipline over the CAP lies near the root of the overall imbalance in Britain's net contribution to the European Budget.

The CAP seems to elude the control of the governments in the Council. *A fortiori* it is not subject to the control of the national parliaments.

In fact, the only way to impose financial discipline over the CAP is to make it fully subject to a normal process of Budget-making, so that the claims of agriculture can be properly weighed against other priorities, and so that an adequate measure of public accountability for public money spent by the European Community can be exerted through the European Parliament. This is what the Parliament is contending for, and it is to be hoped that, in the interests both of Britain and of the Community as a whole, the British Government will support its efforts.

Westminster should not see every extension of the European Parliament's powers as a loss for itself: neither Parliament will lose from the developments now at issue. The principle of parliamentary accountability will be the gainer.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT JACKSON,
4 Churton Place, SW1.

Abiding commitment to British Rail

From Mr T. R. Thomas

Sir, My grandfather, J. H. (Jimmy) Thomas, was a tough man. He was the signatory, on behalf of the railway unions, to the agreement dated November 6, 1918, which achieved the eight-hour day for railwaymen. It is this agreement, signed over 60 years ago, that is the root cause of the current dispute.

My grandfather was also, not in order of importance, a great railwayman, a great union man and a great patriot. He believed passionately and equally in the rights of the working man and the importance of a strong British economy.

Over the weeks of the rail dispute, I have often wondered what Grandpa's position would have been. I believe that he would not have called a strike that savaged the public, damaged the economy and (above all) jeopardised the future importance and viability of his own industry. In my heart I know that he would never have allowed this dispute to reach the levels of inanity that prevail.

In particular, he would never, as a good argumentative Welshman, have allowed what he believed to be a good case to go by default. He would have talked, talked, and talked again.

Think on it Mr Buckton. Could you look me in the eye and say that Jimmy Thomas would have given you his blessing? And, before you say "irrelevant", look up the records and see what he achieved for your members.

Yours faithfully,
TIM THOMAS,
Friskey's Wood,
Billingshurst, Sussex.
February 5.

From Mr Harley Sherlock

Sir, In your editorial today (February 4) you summarise the cause of the travelling public's present misery by referring to Aslef as "a doomed craft union". But you show very litle sympathy to the members of this union who, in the name of productivity, have given up nearly a third of their jobs in the last 15 years. Surely they are by now entitled to some assurance from the Government that the necessary capital investment will be available to ensure that British Rail becomes more productive through the use of better equipment and an increase in custom: not just through the shedding of labour.

The Government, as paymaster, also has its rights and cannot be expected to sign a blank cheque without some positive sign that words about increased productivity are going to be translated into deeds. It is important therefore that the present calamity should be made the occasion for everyone to look beyond their entrenched positions and to decide whether they want a railway system or whether, for widely different reasons, they want to see the system strangled to death.

There are a lot of us living on this small island and, unless we are prepared to turn our remaining agricultural land into an endless suburb, most of us will continue to live in densely populated cities which are dependent on good public transport. Without an extensive railway system these cities will suffer socially, economically and environmentally.

It is therefore in the national interest that the Government stops sitting on the sidelines and confirms that the country is committed to keeping its railways rather than allowing them to become steadily less efficient through lack of capital investment. Without such an assurance neither management nor workforce can be expected to plan positively for the future.

Yours faithfully,
HARLEY SHERLOCK,
Chairman, Transport 2000,
258 Pentonville Road, N1.

From the Secretary General of the Council of Civil Service Unions

Sir, The attack on Aslef in your leader of February 4 would be more credible if *The Times* had a consistent record of championing arbitration (whether binding or otherwise) and independent inquiries in general.

Last year I repeatedly told the Government, the press, and anyone who would listen that the Civil Service unions were willing to seek resolution of our dispute through conciliation, or through binding or non-binding arbitration. *The Times* did not urge the Government to take that statesmanlike course or condemn the "self-righteous cussedness" of the employer. It could not, conversely, have made more plain its determination that Civil Service unions should be beaten, no matter what the cost.

I can only conclude that *The Times* believes in arbitration when it thinks such a course would favour the employer. That is a travesty of the purpose of arbitration.

Yours sincerely,
W. L. KENDALL,
Secretary General,
Council of Civil Service Unions,
19 Rochester Row, SW1.
February 5.

From Mr David Mitchell

Sir, Mr Jack Dash led the assault which emasculated the London docks beyond the point of recovery. Is history about to repeat itself in the form of Mr Ray Buckton and the British railway system?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MITCHELL
Hollingworth House,
Tydd St Giles,
Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

Conserving the countryside

From the Chairman of the Countryside Commission

Sir, Your perceptive second leader, "Cambria's untrodden way", of February 2, goes a long way to answer points made in the letter from Alan Mattingly, of the Ramblers' Association, which you published on the previous day. But your readers could still be under three misconceptions about the plans of the Countryside Commission.

First, Mr Mattingly says we are closing our regional offices. In fact we are closing two, leaving seven offices in England and one in Wales, with some corresponding boundary adjustments. This is in response to staff reductions imposed on us; in fact, a larger proportion of our rather smaller staff will be in regional offices in future than now.

Secondly, it is quite untrue to state that the commission "is becoming heavily involved in . . . wildlife conservation": our policy continues as previously, of furthering the conservation and enhancement of the countryside's natural beauty and amenity of which the wildlife is an integral part.

Thirdly, the reference to "a switch in priority from recreation to conservation". That is correct, for we do plan to put rather more of our resources into countryside conservation in future. We see protection of the countryside as the prerequisite for its enjoyment; and we believe our sense of priorities accords with that of the public at large. But Mr Mattingly and the rambling fraternity need have no fear that their interests will be forgotten. Most of our grant aid is currently for recreation and access schemes — footpath improvement, creation of country parks and picnic sites, access to moorland, heath and woodland for example — and they will continue to be important features of our programme after we become independent of the Civil Service this coming April.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK BARBER, Chairman,
Countryside Commission,
John Dower House,
Crescent Place,
Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire.
February 4.

Canada's Constitution

From Sir Bernard Braine, MP for Essex, South East (Conservative).

Sir, The British Parliament, as Lord Denning confirmed in his judgment last week, retains the power to repeal, amend or alter the Canadian Constitution contained in the British North America Acts, 1867 to 1930.

I know of no member of Parliament who is not prepared to give up this power, but we are asked to do more than this, if we enact the Canada Bill. We are expected to approve at Westminster, against strenuous opposition within Canada, a new Canadian Constitution containing a detailed Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

While we retain jurisdiction, therefore, we cannot be expected to enact so comprehensive a measure blindly and uncritically. We have not only the right but the duty to examine the Bill and thereafter enact it, reject it or, subject to the ruling of the Chair, amend it.

The Bill before us is based on a resolution of the Canadian Parliament, rejected by Quebec, which is not simply one out of 10 provinces in Canada, but, as you rightly say (leading article, January 30), is a "founding nation, encompassing a quarter of Canada's population". I, for one, cannot accept that an agreement opposed by Quebec can be said to have met the Canadian Supreme Court's constitutional test of carrying a substantial measure of agreement within Canada.

The objections of Canada's native peoples are also a matter of grave concern. Lord Denning clearly did not think it right to question the good faith of the Canadian Parliament, Judiciary and Government towards them. He has, however, reaffirmed the solemn and binding nature of the obligations owed by the Crown in Canada to the Indians, Metis and Inuit nations. He gave us at Westminster the broadest hint when he concluded that "No Parliament should do anything to lessen the worth of these guarantees".

A petition by Indian chiefs which I presented to Parliament on January 22 contains incontrovertible evidence of past extinguishment of native rights and there is disturbing evidence that Canadian governments intend to terminate these rights when they have the power to do so.

Our moral duty at Westminster is clear: we must play our part in ensuring that the guarantees affirmed by Lord Denning can never in the future be broken.

Yours truly,
BERNARD BRAINE,
House of Commons.
February 2.

University challenge

From the Director of the London School of Economics and Political Science

Sir, Professor Robin Marris's brilliant defence of Britain's universities (feature, February 5) is correct in its facts and impressive in its arguments. I wonder whether you would be prepared to give Sir Keith Joseph a chance to make his case in your columns — if indeed he has anything to say.

More particularly, I for one should be interested to know why it is that successive governments of Britain have, to use Robin Marris's words, turned against the things which the country does particularly well.

Yours sincerely,
RALF DAHRENDORF, Director,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
(University of London),
Houghton Street, WC2.
February 5.

The buyer's premium

From the President of the British Antique Dealers' Association

Sir, In Mr Leisenring's letter of February 3, regarding the buyer's premium, his knowledge of the American reaction would appear to be somewhat misguided. The support that my association and the Society of London Art Dealers received from all the art and antique associations and museums of America was very considerable, both in sentiment and finance.

Does Mr Leisenring earn a living from buying at either Sotheby Parke Bernet or Christie's New York? For if he does not, I would point out that over 75 per cent of the buyers at those auction houses are people who do.

No! I am in total agreement with your paper's leader (January 16). What other profession charges both parties for the same transaction?

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES B. LEE,
The British Antique Dealers' Association Ltd,
20 Rutland Gate, SW7.
February 3.

ASEAN potential

From Mr F. McKellar

Sir, The apparent advantages accruing to those who recognise the South East Asia economic zone as the area with the best growth prospects in the world over the next decade will be determined and shared only by those capable of creating innovative initiatives and reciprocal trade exchanges that will secure mutual economic expansion and benefits motivating continuity.

The visit of Lord Carrington to the ASEAN capitals will undoubtedly reinforce the impression that the good will created by the British over the past 100 years has been severely eroded in the last 10 to 15 years, mostly by default and preoccupation with other areas, particularly the EEC. There still remain, however, many exceptions represented by the established multinational trading companies of European origin, who respect their obligations to the host countries and continue to prosper in parallel with sustained expansion of the area. They have been joined by major competitors from the USA and Europe, introducing new skills and expertise needed to diversify and multiply the economic development of a highly productive indigenous workforce.

I am an active participant in the Hong Kong Trade Advisory Group (HKTAG) of the British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB) promoting and developing British export trade.

Hongkong recognises that total trade development means exactly that; representative responsibility encompasses inter-connected trade promotion of exports and imports, industrial investment, financial services, communications, transport and distribution, and knowledge of infrastructural development in both public and private sectors over the next ten years. The most important priority is identification of economic growth areas and anticipated forward demand patterns and supply requirements in both import and export commodities, products and services. Once these are established and contacts made, a vigorous and continuous follow-up exercise is activated, with check-listed results monitored — result, maximisation of two-way total trade.

My firm impression has been that BOTB activity is a one-way traffic and as such, the multi-dimensional totality of trade involvement (as for instance practised by Japan and West Germany) is reduced to one single dimension: exports.

There have been literally hundreds of outward missions to the ASEAN area but market share has fallen steadily over the past ten years. In other words the cost effectiveness is problematical. *If there is acceptance of South East Asian growth prospects as the most viable trading area in the next ten years, British posts overseas should be specifically charged with the responsibility of co-ordinating all trade-related activities.* While respecting the experience and dedication of those exercising control, there is a requirement for natural motivators. They should have sufficient drive and enthusiasm, combined with delegated authority, to inspire involvement in total trade expansion in all its multi-dimensional implications and commitments.

There should also be continuity in order to maintain momentum. They could be subordinate to a director general of trade in the area, with complete regional autonomy in South East Asia. The organisational structure of the former South East Asian Command (SEAC) very ably led by the then (late) Lord Louis Mountbatten is a good example of such a potentially successful headquarters which could be based in Hongkong.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK McKELLAR,
Senior Representative UK,
Hong Kong Trade Development Council,
14-16 Cockspur Street, SW1.

Air travel monopoly

From Mr A. J. Lucking

Sir, Once again, you have focused attention on the excessive air fares within Europe, and pointed to the contrasting scene in the United States (feature, February 1).

Yet many have failed to appreciate the primary reason for deregulation within the United States, and the consequential increase in competition. It was the discovery of dramatic differences in cost levels between the established airlines and the newer, less regulated, companies *operating wholly within one state.* For example, in the mid-1970s these "intra-state" companies incurred overhead costs of around $4 per passenger, versus around $25 for the major carriers, and $8 for the "local service" airlines.

Since deregulation, one major airline, United, has reduced the flight crew of its 737 aircraft from three to two, and the pilots have agreed also to work longer hours, to make their company more competitive, and so retain more jobs.

American Airlines are reported to have found that they need only 58 per cent of the employee hours for which they pay.

As a result of the lack of price competition, grossly excessive staff costs are even more prevalent in Europe. We should support the EEC Commission's scheme of "country of origin" fares as the most promising solution to this problem. Most of Britain's airlines have started to slim themselves, and so will be able to exploit the opportunities that would arise.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. LUCKING,
Flat 20, 17 Broad Court,
Bow Street, WC2.
February 1.

The Tawney tradition

From Professor L. S. Pressnell

Sir, "Valiant efforts are made by left-wing publicists to claim him. . . . It will not do" (*The Times*, November 28, 1961). Your leading article on Tawney's eightieth birthday acknowledged that "No man alive has put more people into his spiritual and intellectual debt".

How wrong for *any* group intent on political power to debase that achievement and themselves by now appropriating it for narrower ends. How inconsiderate also towards existing, well-established, and emphatically non-political institutions more properly carrying his name: the Tawney Society of history students at his main academic home, the London School of Economics, and the distinguished annual Tawney lectureship of the Economic History Society.

Let the SDP repent of their error. Now.

Yours sincerely,
L. S. PRESSNELL,
Eliot College,
University of Kent at Canterbury,
Canterbury.
February 4.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK

February 6: By command of The Queen, the Lord Cullen of Ashbourne (Lord in Waiting) called upon The President of the Arab Republic of Egypt this morning at Claridge's, and, on behalf of Her Majesty, welcomed His Excellency upon his arrival in this Country.

February 7: Divine Service was held in West Newton Church this morning.

The Reverend Gervase Murphy preached the sermon.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

February 7: The Duchess of Kent this evening attended a Gala Performance, given by the Friends of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama at Sadler's Wells Theatre.

Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell was in attendance.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Ruth M. Sharpe will be held at St Margaret's, Westminster, on February 11 at noon.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. L. Berry and Miss C. E. Hibbert

The engagement is announced between Richard, only son of Dr and Mrs R. L. P. Berry, of Fairford, Gloucestershire, and Clare, middle daughter of Mrs J. E. Corne, of Locksheath, Hampshire, and Mr G. H. G. Hibbert, of Gosport, Hampshire.

Mr D. E. Murdoch and Miss R. P. Bunbury

The engagement is announced between Euan, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. K. Murdoch, of West Dulwich, London, and Ruth, daughter of Lieutenant-Commander and Mrs G. H. Bunbury, of Monks Eleigh, Suffolk.

Mr R. A. J. Sharpley and Miss M. R. Glanville

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs John Sharpley, of Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire, and Melanie, younger daughter of Mr John Glanville, FRCS, and Mrs Glanville, of Southampton, Hampshire.

Dr R. Stock and Miss C. Eskenzi

The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. Stock, of 71 Michelham Down, N12, and Caroline, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony N. Eskenzi, of "Woodcroft", Totteridge Green, N20.

Marriages

Mr D. E. Grant and Miss L. J. Amers

A service of blessing was held on Saturday at Holy Trinity, Brompton, after the marriage of Mr David Edmond Grant, son of the late Lord Grant and of Lady Grant, of 30 Moray Place, Edinburgh, and Miss Luragh Jane Amers, daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas Amers, of Sovereigns Cottage, Sunninghill, Berkshire. Canon A. R. Payton officiated.

Mr H. G. Cator and Miss S. E. Keeling

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Paul's, Wilton Place, between Mr Henry Cator, son of Mr John Cator, of Woodbastwick, Norfolk, and Lady Adeane, of Babraham, Cambridgeshire, and Miss Sara Keeling, daughter of Mr Brian Keeling, of Rome, and Mrs John Husted, of Bedford, New York. The Rev Christopher Courtauld officiated.

Mr P. B. Bailey and Miss E. T. Weissberger

The marriage took place on Friday, February 5, 1982, at Westminster Register Office, between Mr Philip Buot Bailey and Miss Elaine Tamara Weissberger. A reception was held at the Dorchester hotel, Park Lane, London.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy

CAPTAINS: G L Hope, HECLA in cmd, Feb 12; R C F Hill, MOD with DG Ships as ADSM, June 25; A J Richmond, MOD as UNAP, April 25.
COMMANDERS: J P Cardale, FIFE in cmd, July 8; P D Ambrose, ANTRIM as Exec Offr, July 18; R M Gee, MOD with PNPT, May 4; H C Bates, staff of SHAPE, June 7; J M Beattie, staff of SACLANT, Aug 30; J A Trewby, INVINCIBLE as WEO, Aug 27; R A Preece, MOD with DNW, April 27; T H S Haigh, staff of CINCNH(R) as Trng Cdr SCC, June 8; W J Daniels, duty with FOAIB, March 13; G Moss, BROOKE as OIC Schl, March 16; J A Phillips, staff of CINCNAVHOME as Staff Offr Youth Trng, May 11.
SURGEON COMMANDER: A R Marsh, RNH Haslar, May 4.

Retirements
SURGEON CAPTAIN: J W Bough, April 1.
COMMANDER: J K Hall-Hall, May 1.

The Army

COLONEL: H R de Fonblanque, MOD as Col AG6, Feb 8.
LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: S S Caney LI, HQ The Light Division as SO1, Feb 12; J S Clements RADC, 3 Dent Gp as Dent Offr, Feb 9; J G Mackenzie QO HLDRS, Staff Coll Camberley as SO1 (DS), Feb 8; T D Parker REME, Log Exec (Army) as SO1, Feb 8; M J P Walker R ANGLIAN, MOD as SO1, Feb 12.

Royal Air Force

AIR VICE-MARSHAL: B Brownlow, RAF College Cranwell as DG Training (RAF), Feb 8.
GROUP CAPTAIN (Acting Air Commodore): D T Bryant, HQ No 38 Group as SASO, Feb 1.
GROUP CAPTAIN: M J W Pierson, CMSU Stanmore as OC and CRAF Man S, Feb 13.
WING COMMANDER (Acting Group Captain): S R Parsons, MOD AFD as DD Air Eng 3(RAF), Feb 8; B G Anstey, MOD AFD as DD Pers Sy, Feb 8; G W Cargill, 14MU Carlisle as OC, Feb 8.
WING COMMANDER: R E M Freeman, MOD AFD as Ops(R)1, Feb 8; G R Pitchfork, Staff College Bracknell on DS, Feb 8; K J Dearman, Staff College Bracknell on DS, Feb 8; A R Cushman, MOD AFD as OR60, Aug 12; V W Cavey, OASC Biggin Hill as CBC, Feb 8; D W Hiller, RAF Cranwell as OC ACTW, Feb 8; R H Fletcher, RAF Coltishall as OC Ops, Feb 8; M C T Banks, MOD as SM25(RAF), Feb 8; J D G Dainty, UAE Armed Forces, Dubai as Air Technical Adviser, Feb 11.
SQUADRON LEADER (Acting Wing Commander): P A Day, SCC Hendon as Wg Cdr SRD, Feb 1.

University news

Oxford

The following appointments and awards have been made:

Readership in transport studies and directorship of transport studies unit: P B Goodwin, BSc (Econ), PhD, London, with effect from Jan 1. Hensley Henson lectureship in theology, 1982-3: Canon S W Sykes, Van Mildert Professor of divinity, Durham University. Eldon Law Scholarship: N A Hamblen, St John's Coll. Robert Herbert Memorial Prize: A J O'Shaughnessy, Oriel Coll.

Cambridge

Awards.

George Peter Baker prize in medicine 1981: J R Sneyd, BA, BChir (Queens' Coll); Kermode essay prize 1981: J M Levin, BChir (Darwin Coll) and I H Shaw, PhD, BChir (Corpus Christi Coll), aeq. Members' English prize for 1981-82: D J Womersley, BA (Pembroke Coll). Henry Ling Roth scholarship 1981-82: B P Greenwood (Wolfson Coll). DOWNING COLLEGE: P H Jarvis, Southend HS, exhibition in mathematics.

Latest wills

Lady Snow (Pamela Hansford Johnson), of Westminster, novelist and widow of C. P. Snow, left estate valued at £50,133 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Beynon, Mr Ernest Wilkin, of St Davids, Dyfed £324,044
Button, Mr Charles Howard, of West Bridgford, Notts £571,110
Lanston, Mr Ernest Arthur, of Cockfosters, Herts £216,983

Extending a lifeline to the Middle East

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

In spite of British trade with the Middle East being worth thousands of millions of pounds and the presence of some 50,000 expatriate British people working in the area to earn those colossal sums, welfare facilities seem to have been neglected to a scandalous extent. There are many wealthy firms, according to experts on British-Middle East trade, who make virtually no provision at all.

Yet, by all accounts, the pressures on British people arriving for work in such an alien environment, and on their wives and children where they are accompanied, are sometimes overwhelming.

Consular officials report that few British people, taking up a job in a Gulf state or in Saudi Arabia, have even begun to appreciate how difficult it will be for them to adjust, and how hard to resist are the temptations to succumb to one of the social or emotional catastrophes rife in such places. These range from divorce to alcoholism, depression and suicide to sexual promiscuity.

Although nowhere in the Foreign Office budget does the maintenance of morale, and hence the emotional equilibrium, of ex-patriots appear, it is an accepted part of the work of consular officials. But it is only a limited part, and the consular service would be vastly overstretched if it attempted to keep pace with more than the basic and obvious needs. An embassy cannot be expected to keep on its staff, a team of child guidance counsellors for instance.

All the taken-for-granted resources of the British welfare state and the complex network of voluntary, secular and religious organizations which make life in Britain what it is, are absent from the lives of ex-patriots. They can hardly be expected to draw support from the social infrastructures of an Islamic culture, nor can a Middle East host government be expected to make provision for the welfare of those who are not its own.

It is the creaking apparatus of that last colonial remnant, the Church of England overseas, which has responded to this diverse and enormous need. The church, so invisibly and apparently so unnecessary in the life of a go-getting businessman when he works in London, suddenly becomes a pillar of strength when he finds himself in Dubai or Kuwait. It was there, organized in backwards chaplaincies, before the Arab trade boom was dreamt of. It has adapted as best it can, filling a vacuum. The man in charge, the Right Rev Leonard Ashton the Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf, earns £3,000 a year and types his own letters on a borrowed typewriter.

The church is now technically an independent diocese, although Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, describes it as a "very special case". It is not an indigenous church like the rest of the Anglican Communion in the third world, but a vast chaplaincy service.

It lives permanently on the edge of bankruptcy, and is permanently on call to deal with distressed and suicidal wives, deaths through injury or disease and the patient pastoral confidence-maintaining relationships which can save people from going to pieces.

According to their consciences, British companies either contribute to its costs, or do not. Some of the largest not only fail to provide any form of welfare sevice themselves for their employees, but fail to contribute anything to this alternative. It is hardly a record likely to win the respect of devout Moslems, who take the principle of communal responsibility for those in any kind of need, utterly seriously.

When they disparage the West as a meretricious decadant and selfish culture, they may have good cause, with many examples literally on their own doorsteps.

The church of the Gulf, which in many places represents not just Anglicanism but Christianity in general, claims some 25,000 active communicant members. Though not all are of British origin, it is a substantial proportion of the total expatriate British population in the area. Many of those (perhaps most) who are not included in this number would regard the services of the church as a birthright if ever they needed to call on them.

There is no grant from the British Government nor from the Church Commissioners, nor are there valuable investments turning out dividends to support the work. It is ecumenical to a unique degree, with almost all denominational boundaries dismantled to vanishing point. The ratio of chaplains to people is far below the level in, say, the British hospital service, the British armed services, or even British prisons. In some respects the pressures and the problems are even more severe.

A group of British and American businessmen from a number of major companies, under the leadership of Lord Inchcape and the board of Gray Mackenzie and Company, have at last established a fund with the immediate aim of adding seven to the total of 21 full-time chaplains. In the longer term they hope to put right a situation that does as much harm to British business interests as to Britain's good name in the Middle East.

Memorial services

Mr E. Garrott

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Eric Garrott was held at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, on Thursday, February 4. Prebendary Dewi Morgan officiated. Mr Mark Birley gave an address and Mr Royston Taylor read the lesson. Among others present were:

Mr and Mrs S Garrott, Miss Joan Voss, Mr John Goldsmith, Miss Judith Jackson, Mr Vincent Kehoe, Miss Sue Tollworthy, Mr Nicholas Blair, Mr Michael Switzer, Mr and Mrs Richard Garland, Mr R Bobby, Mr Alex Wright (representing The Daily Telegraph), Mr Ian Penhallow, Vicomte Bernard de la Giraudieu, Sir Nigel Seely (representing DDF), Mr Jonathan Lew, Mr Brian Nicholson (The Observer), Mr Derek Strauss, Mr Grant Davidson (The Guardian), Mr Rodney Branford, Mr Peter Jopp, Mr and Mrs J Stals, Mr and Mrs M J Hanks, Mr and Mrs A C Solomon, Mr and Mrs J A Bagnall Smith, Mr Stuart Duncan, Mr and Mrs J Rubins, Mr Martin Boase, Mrs Lillian Billington, Miss Jenny Saxon, Mr David Stirling, Mr Kenneth Collins, Mr Terence Kyle, Mr Michael Murphy (Express Newspapers), Mr David Lammin, Mr Peter Marsh.

Mr M Saatchi, Mr M Sorrell, Mr Bernard Laser, Mr Michael Cox, Mr Michael Bradshaw, Mr and Mrs P Walker, Mr Peter Young, Mr E C Webb (The Post Office), Mr Richard Baker, Mr Brian Murray, Mr Peter Roth, Mr Brian Palmer, Mr Peter Slaymaker, Mr R Laidlaw, Mr Alan Woodgates, Mr and Mrs Derek Hancocks (Castrol), Mr Stephen Garman, The Hon Mrs Noreen Bull, Mr Paul Lovick, Miss Lucy Nelson, Mr and Mrs M A Geraghty, Mr John Metcalf, Mr Brian Ward, Mr Desmond Davis, Mr William Lloyd, Mr Charles Doxat, Mr Neil Kennedy, Mr David Lawrence, Mr Simon Parker Bowles, Mr Tim Myers and Mr Michael Chapman.

Professor Sir Hans Krebs

A memorial service for Professor Sir Hans Krebs was held at the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford, on Saturday. The Chaplain of Trinity College Oxford officiated. The lesson was read by Dr John Krebs (son), and addresses were given by Dr Reginald Hems and Professor Sir Hans Kornberg. Oxford University was represented by the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of Hertford College, and the Proctors; Trinity College by the President and Fellows; St Catherine's College by the Master, Green College by the Warden, and St Cross College by Mr M. M. Spencer.

Among others present were: Lady Krebs (widow), Mr and Mrs Paul Krebs and Dr and Mrs John Krebs (sons and daughters-in-law), Dr and Mrs J. Lowell (son-in-law and daughter), Mr and Mrs W. Krebs (brother and sister-in-law), Susanna and Rebecca Krebs and Catherine and Sarah Lowell, (granddaughters), Mr and Mrs Peter Krebs, Mrs Ina Steiner.

Sir Edgar Williams, Professor Sir David Phillips (Royal Society) and Lady Phillips, Sir James Gowans (Medical Research Council), Professor Sir Alister Hardy, Lady Dainton (representing the Chancellor of Sheffield University), Lady Kornberg, Dame Janet Vaughan, Professor H Whittam and Dr J S D Bacon (Leicester University), Professor J M Thoday (Department of Genetics, Cambridge University), Professor S P Datta (University College, London), M Claude Lieberg (representing the European Journal of Biochemistry).

Bishop Samuel

The Archbishop of Canterbury was represented by the Rev Christoper Hill at a memorial service for Bishop Samuel held on Saturday, at St Mark's Coptic Orthodox Church, Kensington. Bishop Athanasius, of the Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate, Cairo, officiated, assisted by Father Anthonius Thabit, Father Bishoy Bushra and Bishop Nerses Bozabalian, who led the prayers. The lessons and tributes were read by the Bishop of London, the Apostolic Delegate, the Archbishop of Thyateira and Great Britain, the General Secretary of the British Council of Churches and Mr Maurice Chandler.

Mr C. Macleod

A memorial service for Mr Colin Macleod was held in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on Saturday. The Dean of Christ Church officiated, assisted by Canon M. F. Wiles. The lesson was read by the Senior Censor, Mr D. H. Rice, and an address was given by Professor P. H. J. Lloyd-Jones. Christ Church was represented by the Dean, members of the Chapter and governing body. Among others present were: Mr and Mrs Paul Irons (stepfather and mother), Mr Robert Macleod (brother), Signora M. Montagna (mother-in-law), Mr and Mrs Aitken Giles, Mr and Mrs Christopher Irons (stepbrother and stepsister-in-law), Commander and Mrs Colin Campbell.

Birthdays today



Rabbi Dr Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, the Chief Rabbi, who is 61.

Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, CH, 79; Lord Cameron, 82; Mr Osian Ellis, 54; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat, 69; Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy, 69; Mr Harmon Grisewood, 76; Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, 67; Lady (Geoffrey) Howe, 50; Professor Ann Lambton, 70; Sir Kenneth Maddocks, 75; Lord O'Brien of Lothbury, 74; Lord Rayne, 64; Professor Sir Richard Southern, 70; Mr King Vidor, 86.

25 years ago

From The Times of Wednesday, February 6, 1957

"We want Bill!" — and a minor battle was fought again at Waterloo between those who wanted Bill Haley, those who got him unsafely in their high-powered black limousine, and those whose professional job it is to see that the ordinary passenger has free and easy access to the public parts of Waterloo station. The battle lasted some twenty minutes in all, with no serious casualties left on the field. It may remain in some minds as an enlivening episode in the rather dull routine of a normal rush hour, for Mr Haley arrived just after 5 o'clock and was not entirely escorted from it until 5.30. In other minds — those of the shrill-like chorus who chanted "We want Bill" — it will remain a cherished memory.

Order of the Bath

A service of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath is to be held in Westminster Abbey on Thursday, May 27, 1982, in the presence of the Queen. Details have been sent to all members of the order. If not received, please write to the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood, St James's Palace.

Parliament this week

Commons. Today (2.30): Employment Bill, second reading. Tomorrow (2.30): Transport Bill, second reading. Wednesday (2.30): Motions on Rate Support Grant (Scotland) Order and Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order. Harbours (Scotland) Bill, second reading. Thursday (2.30): Debate on Opposition motion on overseas development. Friday (9.30): Private Members' Bills: Cinematograph Bill and Garden Supplies (Sunday Trading) Bill, second readings.

Select committees: Today: Foreign Affairs. Subject: Caribbean and Central America: British approach to stability, security and development. Witnesses: Ambassador of Nicaragua; Mr Roberto Espindola, School of Social Science, Bradford University (3.30).

Energy. Subject: Combined heat and power. Witnesses: Herz & McCallan (4.30): Chemical Industries Assoc. Paper and Board (5.30).

Public Accounts. Subject: University Grants Committee. Witnesses: Sir James Hamilton, Department of Education and Science; Dr E. Parkes, University Grants Committee (4.45).

Wednesday: Defence. Subject: Ministry of Defence Organization and Procurement. Witnesses: Joint Review Board Advisory Committee; Defence Manufacturers Assoc (10.30).

Education, Science and Arts. Subject: Department of Education and Science: Expenditure Plans for 1981-82 and subsequent years. Witness: Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State (10.30).

Scottish Affairs. Subject: Rural Road Passenger Transport and Ferries in Scotland. Witnesses: Scottish Transport Group (10.30).

Welsh Affairs. Subject: Water in Wales. Witnesses: Trades Union Congress of Wales and the Farmers' Union of Wales (10.30).

Home Affairs. Subject: Police complaints procedure. Witnesses: Metropolitan Police; Police Superintendents' Association (10.45).

Public Accounts. Subject: Sales of shares in British aerospace: postponement of payments. Witness: Sir Peter Carey, Permanent Secretary, Department of Industry (4).

Social Services. Subject: The age of retirement. Witnesses: Institute of Personnel Management; Association of Consulting Actuaries; Faculty of Actuaries and Institute of Actuaries (4.15).

Transport. Subject: Transportation in London. Witnesses: Officials of the Home Office (4.15).

Employment. Subject: Manpower Services Commission's Corporate Plan 1982-86. Witnesses: The Manpower Services Commission (4.30).

European Legislation. Subject: Guidelines for European Agriculture. Witnesses: Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, and officials of the ministry (4.30).

Thursday 11 February: Agriculture. Subject: Less Favoured Areas. Witnesses: UK Agriculture Departments (11).

Social Services. Subject: University Grants Committee cuts and medical services. Witnesses: Department of Health and Social Security (4.30).

Lords. Today (2.30): Antiquities Bill, second reading. Debate on EEC committee report on annual accounts of banks. Tomorrow (2.30): Transport (Finance) Bill, second reading. Motion on Aviation Security Fund Regulations. Shops Bill, second reading. Debate on personal savings and housing markets.

Wednesday (2.30): Debate on green paper Alternatives to Domestic Rates.

Thursday (3.00): Reserve Forces Bill and Shipbuilding Bill, third readings. Deer (Amendment) Bill and New Towns Bill, second readings. Debate on building workshops for small businesses.

Select committees. Wednesday: EEC subcommittee D (Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs). Evidence on guidelines for European agriculture from Consumers in the European Group (10.30).

Subcommittee C (Education, Employment, Social Affairs). Evidence on protection from radiation while undergoing medical examination or treatment from Royal College of Radiologists, British Acupuncture Association, and British Naturopathic and Osteopathic Association (11.00).

Subcommittee B (External Relations, Trade and Industry). Evidence on the internal market (11.00).

Thursday: EEC subcommittee F (Energy, Transport, Technology and Research). Evidence from the Department of Energy on natural gas supplies (11.00).

Progress of legislation

Commons. Feb 2: British Railways Bill, Hertsmere Borough Council (Rowley Lane) Bill, London Transport (General Powers) Bill, Port of London Bill, Saint Thomas' Burial Ground (Southwark) Bill, and West Yorkshire (Parking and Transport) Bill all read a second time. Registration of Commercial Lobbying Interests Bill read a first time. Coal Industry Bill read a second time. Feb 3: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill completed the remaining stages. Lloyd's Bill considered and adjourned. Feb 5: Planning Inquiries (Attendance of Public) Bill read a second time.

Lords. Feb 1: Legal Aid Bill read a first time. Mental Health (Amendment) Bill completed the committee stage. Feb 2: Civil Aviation (Amendment) (No 2) Bill read a first time. Currency Bill and Social Security (Contributions) Bill passed the remaining stages and received Royal Assent along with Civil Aviation (Amendment) Act and Greater London Council (General Powers) Act. Civic Government (Scotland) Bill completed the committee stage. Feb 3: New Towns Bill read a first time. Feb 4: Marriage (Stepparents and Stepchildren) Bill read a first time.

OBITUARY

MR PETER OPIE

Authority on child lore and literature

Mr Peter Opie, the eminent authority on child lore and the history of British children's books, died suddenly at his home at West Liss, Hampshire, on February 5. He was 63.

Peter Mason Opie was the only son of Major Philip Opie of the Royal Army Medical corps, and he was born in Cairo on November 25, 1918.

Educated at Eton, he gained there an abiding love of literature and he published a "schoolboy autobiography" in 1939. In that year he joined the Royal Fusiliers, being commissioned a year later into the Royal Sussex Regiment; but in 1941 he was invalided out of the Army and took up work with the BBC while continuing to write.

In 1943 he married Iona Archibald and through the birth of their first child in 1944 their attention was directed towards the folklore of childhood, a field of scholarship in which they were to win worldwide renown. They began to collect oral and material evidence about the rhymes and games, the customs and the small events of childhood, and their assiduity resulted in the epoch-making *Oxford Dictionary of Nursery Rhymes* (1951). Unprecedented in the care which it devoted to printed sorces it nonetheless carried its factual burden with an appropriate cheerfulness and a constant awareness that it was dealing with a living subject.

The range and variety of that subject was expressed in two further collections of variant rhymes made for general readership: *The Oxford Nursery Rhyme Book* (1955) and *The Puffin Book of Nursery Rhymes* (1963).

All Peter Opie's subsequent work was done in collaboration with his wife and, in so far as there was division of labour, it was she who inclined to fieldwork and he to writing. Their books stemmed on the one hand from their interest in child customs and led, after decades of careful garnering of facts, to the twin volumes, *The Lore and Language of Schoolchildren* (1959) and *Children's Games in Street and Playground* (1969). On the other hand they made use of their peerless collection of children's books to explore various traditions in children's literature, as in *The Oxford Book of Children's Verse* (1973) or *The Classic Fairy Tales* (1974).

In such collections Peter Opie showed a respect for the disciplines of scholarship unusual in the study of children's literature, and his work on children's lore was honoured by the award of the Silver Medal of the Royal Society of Arts in 1953, by the presidency of the Anthropology Section of the British Association 1962-63, and by the presidency of the Folklore Society 1963-64.

He wore his learning lightly, however, and will long be remembered for his eager enthusiasm for the subjects that he loved and for his impish delight in observing the foibles of man in his relation to children and to children's culture.

He is survived by his wife, with whom he was working on a new *Oxford Book of Narrative Verse*, and by two sons and one daughter.

MR ERNEST BADER

Mr Ernest Bader, founder of the Scott Bader Commonwealth, a remarkable experiment in industrial democracy and worker-ownership, died peacefully at his home in Wollaston Hall, Northamptonshire, on February 5. He was 91.

Born in Switzerland, he emigrated to England in 1912, and became a naturalized British citizen shortly after the First World War. He never lost his love for Switzerland, which he continued to visit almost to the end of his long and eventful life.

He will chiefly be remembered for converting the chemical company he and his English wife (née Scott) had started in 1920 in London, into the Scott Bader Commonwealth by a free gift of all the shares in the company by him and his family to the employees in 1951. Unlike many later attempts to develop common ownership under employees' control, the Scott Bader experiment has been highly successful both commercially and socially, and has often been quoted as an example of what can be achieved in a radical restructuring of industry.

Ernest Bader was an ardent pacifist, humanitarian and Quaker, and worked with unceasing energy to promote his ideals worldwide to the very end of his life. He was closely connected with the Vinoba Bhave movement in India, and Jayaprakash Narayan, and was an ardent supporter of Gandhi's industrial trusteeship principles. His remarkable dynamism attracted many outstanding men and women to him, some of whom such as Bob Edwards, MP, and the late Lady Stocks and Fritz Schumacher actually joined Scott Bader and provided practical guidance and encouragement.

A biography of this extraordinary entrepreneur and idealist by Susanna Hoe was published in 1978 entitled *The Man who Gave His Company Away*. In 1980 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Birmingham.

In 1915 he married Dora Scott and they were together for 63 years until her death in 1979. His son, Godric Bader, is the present chairman of Scott Bader Co Ltd.

MR E. J. SELWYN

Mr Edward John Selwyn, the oboe and Cor Anglais player, died in hospital in London on January 29 aged 70.

Born in Cambridge, the eldest son of E. G. Selwyn, sometime Dean of Winchester, he was educated at Marlborough College, Corpus Christi College Cambridge, and the Royal College of Music, where he studied with Leon Goossens. During the Second World War he served in the RAF as a medical orderly in South and South-East Asia.

He had a distinguished career as a musician, performing both in this country and abroad. With the BBC from 1935-1954, he played first with the Northern Ireland Orchestra, in Belfast, and then, after the war, with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, becoming Principal oboe in 1947. He was a member of the English Chamber Orchestra and of its predecessor, the Goldsbrough Orchestra. He was also a regular member, often as a soloist, of the Jacques Orchestra as well as various other chamber ensembles, being a founder member of the New English Consort.

He was specially fond of the music of J. S. Bach, and he will be remembered by many for his obbligato playing in the St Matthew and St John Passions. He was professor of oboe at the Guildhall School of Music from 1947-1981.

He will be remembered with much affection not only by his colleagues but also by his pupils, to whom he gave so much of himself.

He is survived by his widow, Jean, who was previously married to his brother Christopher, who was killed in the Second World War. She, his sons, daughter, and five grandchildren will all miss him greatly.

Sue Carol Ladd widow of the film actor Alan Ladd, and herself for some years a screen actress, died on February 4 in Hollywood. She was 72. She gave up her acting to found an agency for aspiring actors and actresses. Her husband died in 1964.

Law Report February 8 1982 Queen's Bench Division

Establishing estoppel by acquiescence

Pacol Ltd and Others v Trade Lines Ltd and Another

Before Mr Justice Webster

[Judgment delivered February 3]

An estoppel by silence or acquiescence arose where a reasonable man would expect the person against whom the estoppel was raised to bring the true facts to the attention of the other party known by him to be under a mistake as to their respective rights and obligations.

The legal relationship required to establish a promissory estoppel applied to the relationship between two parties engaged in an exchange of correspondence in which one of them intended the correspondence to have legal effect, and the other party knowing of that intention, made requests which could only be of relevance if the correspondence affected their mutual rights and obligations.

Mr Justice Webster so held in the Queen's Bench Division in granting a declaration that the first defendants were estopped from denying that they were parties to bills of lading and from relying on the demise clause in the bills of lading, when trying that preliminary issue between the plaintiffs and the first defendants.

Mr Timothy Walker for the plaintiffs; Mr Richard Aikens for the first defendants.

MR JUSTICE WEBSTER said that the first defendants were charterers of the vessel Henrik Sif and the second defendants were the owners of the vessel which was let on a time charter to the first defendants. The plaintiffs were the shippers, consigners and receivers of three consignments of cocoa butter and were the owners of the goods.

The defendants delivered the three consignments, acknowledged by bills of lading, to Sharpness on April 4, 1977 when a twelve-month limitation period under the Hague Rules began to run against the plaintiffs. The plaintiffs alleged that the cargo was found to be contaminated and short delivered and they claimed damages of over £100,000.

They issued proceedings on March 21, 1979 against the defendants to recover their loss. The first defendants denied that they were the bailees or carriers or that they owed the plaintiffs any duty of care. They denied that the bills of lading evidenced any contract between the plaintiffs and the first defendants.

The second defendants pleaded that they were discharged from any liability on April 6, 1978.

By their reply the plaintiffs pleaded that the first defendants were estopped from denying that there were parties to the bills of lading and from replying on the demise clause. The only issue before his Lordship was the issue of estoppel.

The plaintiffs, by their agents, pursued their claim against the first defendants' agents, Tideways, assuming that they were the proper parties to be sued under the bills of lading. They obtained extensions of time from them. They did not obtain time extensions from the second defendants.

On the evidence before him, his Lordship was satisfied that the plaintiffs' agents believed that the first defendants were the proper party and they obtained that belief because of requests for information and the terms of letters from Tideways.

By their conduct and correspondence, Tideways impliedly represented that the first defendants were capable of being liable and were the proper party to be sued. The plaintiffs' conduct of their case was reasonable and Tideways deliberately encouraged their mistaken belief and did not alert the plaintiffs to their mistake.

The plaintiffs relied on three species of estoppel: estoppel by silence or acquiesence, promissory estoppel and equitable estoppel. Although his Lordship found it difficult to decide whether it was necessary to establish a pre-existing or separate duty to speak in order to rely upon estoppel by silence, he gained assistance from Lord Wilberforce's speech in *Moorgate Mercantile Co Ltd v Twitchings* ([1977] AC 890, 903).

That dictum was most persuasive authority for the proposition that the duty necessary to found an estoppel by silence arose where "a reasonable man would expect" the person against whom the estoppel was raised "acting honestly and responsibly" to bring the true facts to the attention of the other party known by him to be under a mistake as to their respective rights and obligations.

Tideways were under a duty to alert the plaintiffs as to the true facts and the plaintiffs had established the estoppel by silence or acquiescence on which they relied.

The plaintiffs in order to rely on promissory estoppel had to satisfy the requirement that there was a legal relationship between the parties.

The expression "legal relationship" applied to the relationship between two parties in an exchange of correspondence in which one of them intended the correspondence to have legal effect, in circumstances in which the other, knowing of that first party's intention made requests or purported to grant extensions of time which could only be of relevance to the first party if the correspondence between them affected their mutual rights and obligations.

The correspondence between the plaintiffs and Tideways was such a correspondence and a legal relationship existed between the parties.

The representation that they were the proper party to be sued on the bills of lading constituted, if in fact they were not parties to the bills of lading, a representation that they would not enforce their strict rights against the other. The first defendants were prevented from denying that they were to be treated as parties to the bills of lading and accordingly the plaintiffs had a cause of action against them.

The decisions of Mr Justice Goff and the Court of Appeal in *Amalagamated Investment & Property Co Ltd v Texas Commerce International Bank Ltd* ([1981] 2 WLR 554, 3 WLR 565) could be construed as authority to support the existence of a species of estoppel founded on general equitable principals, and it would be unconscionable for the defendants now to be allowed to deny that they were the proper party to be sued on the bills of lading.

If, contrary to his Lordship's view, the plaintiffs had failed to establish any one of the three species of estoppel, then it might well be that the plaintiffs could rely on an estoppel by convention; the underlying assumptions being that the defendants were capable in principle of being made liable under the bills of lading.

Solicitors: Clyde & Co; Ince & Co.

When time starts to run

Pirelli General Cable Works Ltd v Oscar Faber & Partners

Before Lord Justice Ormrod, Lord Justice Dunn and Sir Sebag Shaw

[Judgment delivered February 3]

The question when time started to run in building negligence actions was raised in the Court of Appeal who observed that a recent House of Lords decision left the law in an obscure state.

The court dismissed an appeal by Oscar Faber & Partners, a firm of consulting engineers, defendants in a negligence action brought by the plaintiffs Pirelli General Cable Works Ltd, from an order of Judge William Stabb, QC, sitting as an official referee of the Queen's Bench Division who held that the claim was not statute barred. The limitation period under the Limitation Act 1939 is six years.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was given.

Mr Desmond Wright, QC, and Mr Jeremy Storey for the defendants; Mr Patrick Garland, QC, and Mr John Dyson for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD said that the defendants were concerned with the building of a chimney which was defective. The finding of negligence made by the official referee was accepted but the question was whether the action was statute barred.

The writ was issued on October 17, 1978. The chimney had been completed in 1969 and defects became visible in 1977.

When did time start to run? Was it from the time the effective work was done? Was it from the time the defects were visible or when the plaintiffs acting with all reasonable care should have been able to discover the damage?

The appeal had to be dismissed as the court was bound by the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Sparham-Souter and Another v Town and Country Developments (Essex) Ltd and Another* ([1976] 1 QB 858) but the decision in that case could not be reconciled with the decision in the House of Lords in *Cartledge and Others v E. Jopling & Sons Ltd* ([1963] AC 758).

Further, the decision of the House of Lords in *Anns and Others v Merton London Borough Council* ([1978] AC 728) left the law in an obscure state.

The appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Dunn and Sir Sebag Shaw agreed.

Solicitors: Beale & Co; Herbert Oppenheimer, Nathan & Vandyck.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

"The millionaire businessman who tried to take over the street ice cream, hot dog and soft drink campaign with a reign of terror was jailed for four years at the Old Bailey. . . . He forced other operators out of business by intimidation, ramming their vans and beating people up. . . . The racketeers charge as much as £1.50 for an ice cream." *The Standard*.

*

It was a soft, creamy dawn over London. Chocolate whorls of cloud decorated the horizon while starlings hung stiffly in the trees like mint chips on a vanilla cornet. With his foot, Inspector Wafer of the Yard stirred the glowing embers of what had once been an ice cream van.

"It's happened at last, Jack", he said. "The Ice Cream War has broken out."

Sergeant Jack Coupe looked impressed.

"What do we do now?"

Wafer looked nonplussed for a moment. Then his face brightened.

"I know", he said. "We'll form an Ice Cream Squad."

*

Night. Hendon. The sky, soft-dark as a chocolate mousse, hung over the rooftops. The chimneys, like flake bars, stuck up into it. Everything was quiet, except for the sound of a far-off cornet.

Suddenly round a corner, lights blazing, bells ringing, came an ice cream van at 75 mph. It crashed right into the police barrier.

"All right", said Supt Walls heavily into the driver's window. "We've got you on 15 different counts. Exceeding the speed limit, not paying copyright on *Teddy Bears Picnic*, wiping out the 'Lucky' Cassata gang . . ."

The driver pushed a police ID card at him.

"Wafer, Ice Cream Squad", he said.

*

The Neapolitan dusk went down over the South Kensington museum complex, green, then pink, then white. Inspector Wafer, dressed uncomfortably as a lollipop lady, nudged Jack Coupe, resplendent as a traffic warden.

"That's him."

He nodded at the Mr Freezy van parked ostentatiously outside the Natural Seismological Museum. The man inside was six foot four, with scars on both cheeks, a cauliflower ear and raspberry bloodstains on his white overalls.

"That's who?" said Jack, puzzled.

"He's only a small operator", said Wafer, "but he'll lead us to the big man. You cover the back, I'll go in the front."

Minutes later the big man was sweating, ground remorselessly down by the sheer tedium of the police questioning.

"OK, OK", he said. "I'll tell you who the big man is."

Wafer hit him once more for luck. Inside the Seismological Museum they registered force three on the Richter Scale.

*

"Jack the Ripple", said Wafer. "That's the man we're after. Somewhere in London there is hundreds of tons of this soft white substance, bringing misery to the addicts who are dependent on this vile trade. But I'll devote the rest of my life if necessary to bringing down this gang of devils in human form!"

"Bit melodramatic, isn't it, sir?" said Jack.

"Sorry", said Wafer. "I keep thinking the BBC cameras are still here."

*

A lemon-yellow sun shone tartly over London. A rum flavour arose from somewhere. Far off, a group of pelicans huddled disconsolately in London Zoo. In Hyde Park a five foot nine schoolboy asked the man in the van for a choc ice.

"That will be £4.60 plus VAT, sonny", said the vendor.

Inspector Wafer pulled off his cap, blazer, satchel and pebble glasses.

"I am Inspector Wafer of the Ice Cream Squad", he said.

The vendor pulled off his false nose, wig, ears and glasses.

"Sergeant Coupe, I'm afraid, sir", he said.

*

In the House of Commons Sir Hector Vanilla, Tory MP for Bournville, South, and elected member for the ice cream trade, got to his feet. "May I ask the Home Secretary what progress he has to announce in the Jack the Ripple case?"

The Home Secretary got heavily to his feet. "The police are looking into every angle of this case and have reason to believe that it has affected even the highest in the land. More than that I cannot say at present."

The Speaker rang his bell.

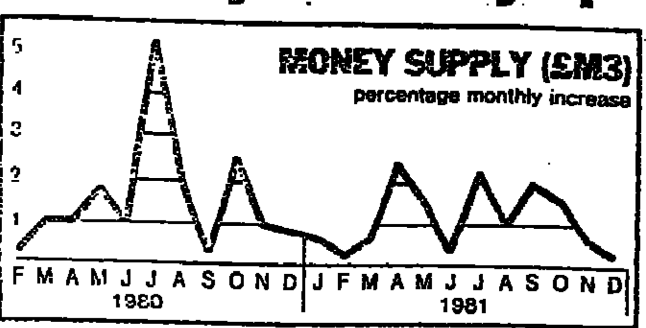
"We'll take a short break there, I think", he said. "While we do so, I will come among you selling wafers, cornets, choc bars and drinks on a stick."

To be continued

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BUSINESS NEWS

M3 likely to rise by 1pc



The Bank of England publishes tomorrow its preliminary estimate of the growth in sterling M3, the broad measure of banking money, for the banking month to mid-January. Many City estimates look for growth of 1-1¼ per cent. Figures for the London clearing banks will give some idea of the buoyancy of bank lending to the private sector, but the figures are likely to understate the true trend because of the large scale purchases of commercial bills by the Bank of England in its open market operations.

Sangers shake-up expected

Sparks look certain to fly at the special board meeting at Sangers, the loss making pharmaceutical group, called for tomorrow. On the agenda is expected to be the invitation for Mr Tom Whyte, who holds 24 per cent of the shares, to join the board and a call for the resignation of several of Sanger's directors and Hill Samuel, it's financial advisers.

Mr Whyte, former head of the crashed Triumph Investment Trust, last night expressed dissatisfaction with Hill Samuel's financial advice and complained that the last chairman's report had made no mention of the group's mounting financial losses. Mr Whyte bought his stake in Sangers in July when he believed a recovery was on the way in the United States pharmaceutical industry. Mounting costs and competition have resulted in losses so far of £1m in the six months to August 31.

Since then he has recommended the appointment of Mr Philip Saul, a lawyer, and Mr Brian Flinn, an accountant, whose brief is believed to include the sale of the main loss makers and realization of assets.

ACC warms to Ronson

Speculation was growing yesterday that a majority of directors on the board of ACC was now prepared to accept Mr Gerald Ronson's bid of £46m against the earlier offer from Mr Robert Holmes à Court of £36m. Mr Holmes à Court has also been asked by shareholders of TVW Enterprises, his television offshoot, why he has not taken up Mr Ronson's higher offer.

● SE Labs (EMI), the telecommunications equipment manufacturing subsidiary of Thorn EMI, has changed its name to Datatech.

● RCA, Philips and Signetics of America have signed an agreement to design and develop advanced high speed micro chips.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Realignment at Imps

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 578.8 up 3.3
FT Gilts 65.15 up 0.20
FT all share 329.93 up 1.21
Bargains 23,166

Imperial Group should show an improved second-half performance in the full-year figures for the year to October due on Thursday. Analysts are looking for profits of £100m against £127m in 1980.

Unexpectedly poor first-half results, when profits had slumped from £70.7m to £29.7m, led to reorganization plans which could include the £130m sale of its food division. There are also rumours that the poultry division will be shed.

As the British tobacco market had continued to shrink, Imperial's margins have been helped by price increases last September and again in January, but there is still the possibility of further redundancies in the tobacco division.

Evidence of better cigarette earnings in the United Kingdom in the second half came last week from Gallaher whose trading profits were up from £59.7m to £64.7m.

There should also be an improved performance in the second half from Howard Johnson, the United States subsidiary, where operations, which include hotels, restaurants and food manufacture, are heavily dependent on summer traffic.

Analysts expect the dividend to be maintained at 18.3p for the year with an improvement in profits during 1982. Earnings before tax are expected to rise with estimates ranging from £115m to £130m.

How far-reaching the reorganization plans of Mr Geoffrey Kent, the new chairman, are will be critical. His new strategy has not been fully spelled out and there are hopes that more details may be given with this week's figures.

Steps taken so far have included the removal of several layers of bureaucracy both at the head office in the divisions, but turning round a diversified group of Imperial's size will inevitably take time.

Lonrho's profits were down £9m at the half-way stage, but full-year figures due this week are expected to show a fall from £119.1m to about £105m, with a corresponding fall in dividend.

The group has seldom been out of the news, with last year's acquisition of The Observer and a 30 per cent stake in House of Fraser followed by rumours that Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland would emerge as a third contender in the battle to control Associated Communications Corporation.

But although the House of Fraser will make a useful contribution to profits, the group's other United Kingdom interests are in a less healthy position. The Observer is continuing to lose money, and plans for a new London evening paper have apparently been shelved. There will be continuing losses at Hadfields, the Sheffield steel group.

Lonhro is faring better overseas with production from its gold mines in Zimbabwe increasing and offsetting the lower metal price. The group's platinum mining and agricultural interests are also performing well.

Much of the interest in the group centres on whether Lonhro will make a further attempt to acquire House of Fraser, the Harrods store group.

When Mr John Biffen, Trade Secretary, blocked the takeover last year, Lonhro promised not to add to its 30 per cent stake. But a letter from a Department of Trade official effectively left the door open by saying that Lonhro's rights as a shareholder were not affected.

DIARY

TODAY: Hire purchase and instalment credit statistics (December).
TUESDAY: London clearing banks' monthly statement.
Vehicle production (January provisional).
THURSDAY: Steel production (January).
FRIDAY: Building societies monthly figures.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,365.70 down 2.68
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,801.88 down 32.82
New York: Dow Jones Industrial average 851.03, up 4.00. (Friday's close)

ECONOMIC VIEW

TODAY: United States budget announced. The size of the projected deficit will be watched closely by the money markets as a guide to interest rates. In Britain, the wholesale price index published. Recent figures have looked encouraging, raising hopes that inflation may fall a little faster than the Government is forecasting. Retail sales figures due. High street trading has shown no clear pattern in recent months.

TUESDAY: key indicator during the week is the money supply figures. The City appears to e looking for a rise in January of 1 per cent or under in the growth of sterling M3 which has grown at an annual rate of 15½ per cent in the last 10 months compared with a target of between 6 and 10 per cent. Central government borrowing figures for January.

FRIDAY: Retail price index published. It will shoe whether inflation in Britain is still going up or whether the 12 per cent level seen in November and December was the peak.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY: Interims: Samuel Heath and Sons, Home Farm Products, Meat Trade Suppliers. Finals: Broadstone Investment Trust, Lancashire and London Investment Trust, Manchester Ship Canal, U. C. Investments.
TOMORROW: Interims: Amstrad Consumer Electronics, Crouch Group, Guildhall Property, Wm Jackson, Donald Macpherson.
Finals: Aaronson Bros, Crescent Japan Investment Trust, Crest Nicholson, Ladies Pride Outerwear, New Tokyo Investment Trust
WEDNESDAY: Interims: Ashley Industrial Trust, Benn Bros, Epicure Holdings, Gripperrods, Heelamat, Leaderflush.
Finals: BOC Group, General Consolidated Investment Trust, Lowland Drapery, Securicor Security Service, Yeoman Investment Trust.
THURSDAY: Interims: Christie-Tyler, Christy Brothers, R. M. Douglas, Hamilton Oil of Great Britain, Imperial Group, Mining Supplies, Mountleigh Group.
Finals: Lonhro, River and Mercantile Trust, River Plate and General Investment Trust.
FRIDAYS: Finals: Alexanders Holdings, Brook Tool Engineering Renown Inc, Wagon Finance Corporation.

Strike may lead BL to halt new trucks investment

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The board of BL could decide this week to withdraw investment approval for the company's new range of light trucks, a move that would lead to more job losses and closures in the strike-hit commercial vehicle operation.

After two weeks of strike action, it is clear that the future of BL truck-making hangs in the balance and directors will argue that without some further streamlining, the entire BL recovery plan could be knocked off course.

A decision on the 7-12 tonne light truck range is due from the BL board on Wednesday when it meets for the first time since the strike began. The trucks are due on the market late next year and will complete the Leyland Group's model replacement programme.

About 12,000 Leyland workers at three plants — Bathgate in West Lothian and Leyland and Chorley in Lancashire — are on strike in protest at the company's decision announced in November by Mr David Andrews, the BL executive vice-chairman, to sack 4,100 of the 22,000 truck and bus workers and restructure the business in a bid to staunch mounting losses. Before the stoppage, Leyland was losing about £2m a week, and a report on the group's finances is expected to be delivered by Mr Andrews to the board on Wednesday.

Talks last week between management and union officials which followed the presentation by shop stewards of an alternative strategy for Leyland ended in deadlock and will not be resumed until next Monday.

Meanwhile, failing the success of behind-the-scenes discussions at Bathgate, it is expected that some board members at Wednesday's meeting will advocate the closure of the Scottish factory and push for manufacturing to be centred at Leyland.

This would also entail a substantial reappraisal of BL's capital spending plans. During the next four years, the company has estimated total capital investment at £1,439m, of which £300m is earmarked for the Leyland group. Of the latter, about £108m is to be spent at Ashok Leyland, the Indian truck operation, which is 50.6 per cent owned by BL.

The troubles of the truck and bus subsidiary have been aggravated by a warning



Mr Andrews: preparing to report on group finances.

from J. C. Bamford, one of Leyland's main engine customers, that if the strike does not end by this Friday it will place orders elsewhere. The earthmoving equipment manufacturer takes about a third of BL's 98 series engine output and claims to have spent £250,000 on retooling to introduce a competitive engine.

BL said last week that the loss of the JCB business would add 200 to the 1,365 job losses already announced at Bathgate.

Also at stake is a joint venture between Leyland and a leading engine maker, believed to be Cummins, for the production of a new truck engine. The deal was expected to be announced within the next few months with the Bathgate plant making some of the components.

Leyland's plight, which follows last year's slump in the commercial vehicle market, has been underlined by industry figures just released which show that while total United Kingdom truck and bus sales rose in January by more than a quarter compared with a year earlier, BL's share fell from 20 per cent to under 16 per cent. Ford increased its share to a record 44 per cent.

Further pressure on the strikers has come from senior management and shop stewards at BL's Jaguar factory in Coventry which is dependent upon supplies of six-cylinder engine blocks from the Farrington foundry at Leyland. In a plea to the Leyland strike committee, Mr George Fry, the Jaguar convener, said that if new supplies of blocks were not found by Wednesday, jobs at both plants would be at risk.

Sun Oil may merge North Sea interests

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Sun Oil, the tenth largest American oil company, has been considering merging its North Sea interests with an independent British oil company to create a "third force" in the British oil industry.

There has been speculation recently about Sun's future North Sea involvement — and in particular about the fate of its principal asset, the Balmoral field in block 16/21, 150 miles north east of Aberdeen.

Development plans for this discovery, which could eventually prove to contain more than 100 million barrels of oil, are reliably expected to be submitted to the Department of Energy later this year.

Speculation that Sun might be giving up the operatorship of the field or selling part or all of its 63 per cent interest in the block has been prompted by two recent events. One was the resignation of Mr David Williams, the British geologist in charge of Sun's North Sea exploration. The other was a larger-than-expected £28m rights issue by Clyde Petroleum, one of the partners in the field.

Sun has denied that it was giving up the operatorship of the field, and has insisted that no part of its stake was up for sale. However, it is reliably understood from industry sources that the company, with the full knowledge of Energy Department officials, has been talking with more than one British independent company over several months.

One idea under consideration is a merger in which Sun's interests would be combined with those of a second-rank British exploration company such as Lasmo, creating a new company with assets of several million pounds. Under this arrangement, Sun would keep a minority interest in the new company. Clyde Petroleum is also believed to have talked to Sun about the possibility of Clyde increasing its 15 per cent stake.

The other possibility being aired is that the state-owned British National Oil Coporation, which is operating for a consortium drilling what is believed to be an extension of the Balmoral field in a neighbouring block, might take over developent of the field.

Sun was said to be shocked last year when the licence covering the possible extension was given to the BNOC-led consortium in prefernce to its own group.

If Sun decides to press ahead as operator at Balmoral, it has to decide whether to use a fixed platform or a floating production system and how to finance the operation, likely to cost several hundred million pounds.

□ Iran has reduced the official price of its crude oil by $1 a barrel in an attempt to boost exports, the Middle East Economic Survey reported yesterday.

The authoritative weekly oil newsletter said the National Iranian Oil Company telexed the cut in official prices to its customers on Friday.

The new official prices, on the basis of 30 days' credit are $33.20 a barrel for Iranian light and $31.20 for heavy.

The breach on the worldwide official price structure, both inside and outside Opec, was fraught with "weighty consequences" for the international oil scene, already witnessing a continued slide of spot prices, "Though where it will end is far from clear".

It added that because of conditions in the spot market, Iran's price cut was not large enough to attract as many new buyers as it hoped.

Loan rates top Basle agenda

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Feb 7

The volatile nature of United States interest rates is likely to dominate once again the regular monthly meeting of western central bankers in Basle, Switzerland, which takes place today and tomorrow in the Bank for International Settlements.

While short-term technical interest rate forecasts are difficult, a judgment of United State policy is now practically impossible in the light of differences between the Treasury and the White House on the one hand, which would like to see interest rates fall, and the United States central banking system, the Federal Reserve, that lower interest rates can follow only from a fall in the federal budget deficit.

The monetary shock waves are causing some central bankers — most notable Mr Fritz Leutwiler, who is both the governor of the Swiss National Bank and the president of the BIS, — to call for a better management of exchange rates. But again, the United States with its rejection of an intervention policy, is the principal stumbling block.

Also likely to be discussed, albeit informally, is the Polish debt. The Poles have promised to settle all outstanding interest on their 1981 commercial bank debt by February 15 to enable the stalled rescheduling agreement for last year to go ahead.

The money has been flowing sparingly to the various creditor banks but the central bankers would be unlikely to ignore the possibility of Poland failing to meet the deadline.

Peter Klinger: equipped for competition

All tied up by sheer design

By David Young

Peter Klinger would love to get your company by the throat. His firm designs, weaves and makes up ties for most of the main companies and trade organizations in the country. He has recently completed a reequipment programme which means that he has capacity at his Hemel Hempstead factory to produce 40,000 intricately woven ties each week.

In the past 10 years all the plant and machinery at the factory have been replaced so that the sheer intricacy of the designs that can be introduced shoud protect the company from competition from cheap imports.

Mr Klinger, who employs 30 people at the factory which opened in Hemel Hempstead in 1965 after the business moved from Manchester and Blackburn where his father founded it in 1945, said: "We can offer a service which the Third World textile producer can't compete with. We process the yarn, weave it and design it all under all under one roof and the designs can be so intricate that only those companies which have invested in modern equipment could compete."

Most of the ties are produced in synthetic fibres. A recent design for the Post Office encorporates more than 100 miniature and highly detailed Penny Black stamps. But high quality silk is also being used for more and more customers.

Reagan budget faces difficult passage

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Feb 7

Early Congressional reaction to President Reagan's budget proposal from both Republicans and Democrats was dismay at the size of the projected 1983 deficit coupled with fears that it could well go higher.

Democrats were predictably scathing about a budget which raised defense spending while cutting social programmes but the key comment may well have come yesterday from a Republican Senator Robert Dole, the chairman of the Senate finance committee. "The Republicans I have talked with are frightened about the size of the deficit," he said.

He believed what the President had proposed was "a credible budget" but it needed "a lot of work". That means that even in the Senate, where there is Republican majority, the President has a fight on his hands.

The Repulican whip, Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska described himself as "sort of in a state of shock" on learning that the deficit would be as high as $91,500m. But the real worry is that it is likely to be far higher because that figure relies on Congress approving all of the cuts the President had asked for and that is very unlikely indeed. The cuts in the social programmes are bound to run into heavy opposition in the Democrat controlled House of Representatives.

Representative James Jones, a Democrat from Oklahama and chairman of the budget committee, said the deficit was too large and added: "Unless we get the deficits under control we will have high interest rates and that will frustrate recovery".

Congress is likely to attack strongly the 18 per cent rise in defence spending which is equal to more than a third of the budget deficit.

Senator William Armstrong, a conservative Republican from Colorado, put his finger on the general feeling as he said: "When hawks like me are talking about cutting military spending you know something is in the wind".

Retailers call for shop hours study

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The Retail Consortium, which represents 90 per cent of the retail trade, yesterday entered the growing controversy over extended shop opening hours and called for a government review before any new legislation goes through.

A shops Bill, due for second reading in the Lords tomorrow, could remove all restrictions on trading hours, leaving shops to open late in the evenings and on Sundays.

The consortium admits that the 1950 Shops Act has led to many anomalies but argues that lack of a consensus on shop opening hours should persuade the Government to set up a review before legislating.

This could take the form of a Royal Commission or a departmental inquiry and a consultation document.

Mr Bob Lloyd-Jones, the consortium's director general, said: "A total removal of restrictions is unlikely to be acceptable. It is our view that change will have to take place, but that the change should be sensible and take full account of the need to proctect both shop owners and shop staff and the community they serve."

The consortium's own membership is split on the issue. Some multiple chains are believed to be in favour of Sunday opening with later opening on more weekday evenings. But others are concerned, particularly at the increased cost of opening outside normal hours, especially on Sundays. Trade union opinion is also opposed to change.

'Use unspent £100m' call

By Our Industrial Staff

Nearly £100m, budgeted for construction projects but unused by Government and local authorities, should be rechanneled into the construction industry, according to Britain's civil engineers.

On top of this they want Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor, to provide an extra £500 million in his Budget for housing, roads and sewers.

The Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors said today Government help was needed to boost the ailing industry and provide more jobs.

Mr Derek Gaulter, federation director-general, said £60m would be underspent on motorways and trunk roads this year, and at least £30m of local authority works.

The Transport Ministry was partly to blame, he said, for not ensuring that schemes would be ready to take up the slack.

He added: "We don't think we need to convince Michael Heseltine (Environment Secretary) of the need for more works, but this is the familiar problem of the Treasury's blocking things."

The civil engineers do not agree that money is being underspent because firms desperate for work are undercutting each other.

'Business as usual' spirit lessens rail strike effect

Coach hirers reap unseasonal benefits

By Rupert Morris

Industry is bracing itself for a fifth week of train-drivers' strikes with near equanimity — tinged only by the worry lest the drivers' escalation of their action should be matched by British Rail and lead to a total shutdown.

With 85 per cent of Britain's goods carried by road, two-day rail strikes are bound to have only a limited effect, even if the decision to strike on Tuesday and Thursday this week instead of Wednesday and Thursday does, as expected, prove more disruptive.

For the vast majority, the strikes have been a nuisance, and the main effect has been to give a much-needed boost to coach companies, normally languishing from the tourist low-season, but suddenly frantically busy ferrying people to and from work.

The Confederation of British Industry's response was typically Churchillian. "The resilience of industry and its employees has not yet been broken", it declared, and went on to pay tribute to people's resourcefulness and ingenuity in finding ways of getting to work.

The increase in numbers of people driving to work has led to traffic jams in the cities, but many are sharing cars, and the most significant development, in the South-East in particular, has been the willingness of companies to hire coaches to bring their staff in to work.

ICI now hires 10 coaches a day to bring its employees into central London, and reports attendances well over 90 per cent, while BP, which already runs coaches to some outlying areas, has put on an



Commuters hit, but coach hirers are booming

extra 24 a day, and claims that attendances are 100 per cent in most of its offices.

A typical London coach hire firm, like Atlas Coaches of Acton, has found its business doubled, and has had to hire another 17 coaches on top of its regular fleet of 14.

"It couldn't have come at a better time for use", Mr Bill Weller, Atlas Coaches traffic manager said. "Our normal-tourist work is down, but now we've got about another £1,500 a day coming in which we wouldn't otherwise have".

Regular coach services under the National Bus Company umbrella have enjoyed increased custom, but have only been able to put on occasional extra vehicles. Drivers cannot be recruited overnight.

The company's biggest problem has been to convince businessmen that coaches are a feasible means of daily travel — even though they point out that Birmingham to London is only a 2¼ hour trip, and Manchester to London four hours.

They will be pleased to know that Mr James Ackers, director-general of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, has resolved to travel from his Midlands home to London by coach this week.

Apart from the coach companies, few others have benefitted from the train-drivers' action.

Hotels enjoying the custom of executives staying overnight at their company's request have lost their patrons who would normally arrive by train. Retailers are anxious that they will lose custom, although business at John Lewis's Oxford Street branch is up on last year.

One of the worst-affected industrial firms has been British Rail's own subsidiary Freightliner, which expects to be doing only 35 per cent of its normal business this week.

Freightliner, which takes container traffic by road and rail mostly between Britain and Europe, lost over £2m in revenue in the first four weeks of the dispute.

Mr Malcolm Filsell, deputy managing director, reckons the Tuesday and Thursday disruption will lose the firm a further £1m a week. It is serious, he says, but remains confident that major customers will not be permanently put off.

The Coal Board, which transports 70 per cent of its coal by rail, says it has lost at least £3m by being unable to move 2.1 million tonnes — the equivalent of a week's rail movement. It costs more than £1 a tonne to stockpile coal.

British Steel reported little disruption except at Lackenby, Teesside, where production has been cut 40 per cent because of a combination of the rail strikes, a strike at the export terminal and lack of stockyard space.

Firms such as ICI and Ford, which transport a quarter or more of their goods by rail, said they were using other methods and were not inconvenienced.

Road haulage firms, which might be expected to benefit from rail disruption, complained that the sporadic nature of the train-drivers' action had created almost as many administrative problems as it had produced new custom.

RENT REVIEWS

Calculated approach to long leases

Critics may well argue that Barnet Council's £17m sale of its interest in the Brent Cross shopping centre was politically inspired, but it does at least free the council from the intense wrangling over rent reviews now taking place there.

The whole question of rent reviews is a grey area in legal terms with relatively little case law and the inescapable fact that virtually every commercial lease ever signed has some quirk or loophole which can be exploited in negotiations.

Arbitration, such as has been required at Brent Cross, has become almost the norm, particularly in cases where the lease has reviews only at seven, 14 or even 21-yearly intervals instead of the standard five.



Brent Cross: intense wrangling over rent reviews

What has to be argued in such cases is the price the tenant should be paying for the benefit of such a long review pattern or, in other words how much higher should the rent be than for an identical building on which there are reviews every five years.

This may sound simply like coming up with a suitable mathematical formula but as Mr. Anthony Lorenz, senior partner of London estate agents Baker Lorenz, points out, there are a number of key variables to be considered.

In the first place the loading for a long-dated review has to be based on growth in the particular locality. The tenant of a West End office building, where rental growth has averaged 10 per cent per annum is in a very different position than, say, the tenant of a similar building in Wandsworth High Street, where there has been no appreciable rental growth over the past seven years.

A second and perhaps less obvious point to consider is the size of the building. The tenant who occupies a 1,000 sq ft suite of offices held on a lease with 21-yearly reviews, for instance, may well be prepared to pay £13,000 per annum instead of a market value of £10,000 per annum for the benefit offered by his review pattern.

Indexation of rents has become common in Europe and there have been a few attempts to introduce it in the United Kingdom. But the British propery market is more institutionally orientated and stable than almost anywhere else in the world and indexation would create artificial rent levels when supply and demand is the only factor which really governs rent levels.

In the absence of any legislation or reliable precedents governing reviews, Mr Lorenz has devised his own method of calculating what the loading should be on a long review pattern lease, and applies this on the 500 or so cases he deals with each year.

Take, for example, a 21-year review. Firstly, he calculates the compound annual growth per annum of the type of property in rental terms, and also estimates its market rental value, assuming a conventional five-year pattern.

Based on this compounded growth rate, he then estimates the market rental value of the property in five years' time and capitalizes the premium value which the tenant will enjoy on the unexpired 16-year term to the 21st year.

Then he discounts the capital value back to today's capital figure and rentalizes this discounted capital value. He repeats the process for the 10th, 15th and 20th years to arrive at a rental figure which reflects the loading.

Gareth David

BRITISH TELECOM

Why Buzby is wooing the businessman

The reduction of transatlantic telephone charges last week by British Telecom is expected to benefit the businessman immediately and bring his costs more into line with the residential user.

Telephone calls to North America were cut by 33 per cent from February 1 and in May there is to be a reduction in some inland trunk rates. Telephone calls at standard rate beyond 56 kilometres will cost up to 20 per cent less and those made in Britain's 100 busiest trunk routes will be 33 per cent cheaper.

The business user has long subsidized the residential user. British Telecom has about 15 million residential subscribers but its 4 million business users generate about 60 per cent of the corporation's revenue.

Apart from the desire by British Telecom to bring business rates into line with the domestic consumer, the corporation is ensuring that its rates are commercial, since private telecommunication network operators in the UK could soon open. How soon in the future that will be no one seems quite sure but British Telecom is losing no time in giving its service a commercial edge before any potential competition even gets off the ground.

A consortium of Cable & Wireless, BP and Barclays Merchant Bank was formed last year and applied to the Department of Industry for a licence to operate a private telecommunications network. The network, to be called Mercury, would consist of about 1300 kilometres of fibre optic cable laid at a cost of £50m as the first phase of private telecommunications system. The conditions of operation of the licence are still the subject of negotiation and have been for several months.

British Telecom has lost no time in seeing the need to improve its performance. Its new chairman, Sir George Jefferson, schooled in the highly competitive world of aerospace, did not take long to tell his staff that efficiency must be improved and so must productivity.

Plans for a new business service in London were disclosed and the corporation was at pains to let business users know that it would have a network of high capacity fibre optic cable operating in the UK long before any rival. Last month British Telecom announced a link with Satellite Business Systems of America, the operator of a business satellite over the United States. The deal between the two companies would give British subsidiaries of American companies access to high speed satellite circuits.

However, it is unlikely that the business user will be content with the February reductions which still meant an increase in his quarterly charges last November of about £14.50 or 7 per cent despite the corporation's admitted inefficiencies.

Bill Johnstone

GAS

Pressures mount in face of shortage

The European gas market, for long the subject of little interest to anyone other than those professionally involved, is rapidly proving to be one of the most important and politically sensitive issues in the international arena.

Last week's gas deal between France and Algeria, coming hard on the heels of the diplomatic furore over the planned Russian gas pipeline into western Europe, has underlined yet again that gas supplies — and gas prices — are now matters that exercise the very highest levels of government on both sides of the Atlantic.

The heart of the matter is that western Europe as a whole, and France, West Germany and Italy in particular, can forsee serious shortage of gas supplies by the end of the 1980s. To guarantee supplies to meet the shortfall expected from 1985 onwards, they have to act now, given the long times involved and the nature of international gas contracts, which are usually fixed for at least 20 years, and sometimes longer.

At present natural gas accounts for about 18 per cent of EEC energy requirements. Demand is running at about 200,000 million cubic metres, and is expected to grow to between 300,000 million and 340,000 million cubic metres by 1990.

The problem for France, Germany and Italy is that European countries which could increase their production to meet their needs, notably Britain and Norway, have taken policy decisions not do so for a mixture of economic and security of supply reasons.

The need for France, expected to be 90 per cent dependent on exports in 1990, and Germany to sign new contracts is therefore imperative. Hence their hurry to sign up deals with the Soviet Union despite opposition from President Reagan and Algeria.

The price issue is more complex. Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries such as Algeria have long pressed (without success) to have gas contracts linked to the world crude oil price.

The French/Algerian deal, based on an estimated price of about $5.10 per million BTUs, is about $1.50 below the equivalent oil price. It is slightly above the $4.50 which Germany and France are thought to have agreed with the Soviet Union.

But the two governments are prepared to pay premium for their supplies. Gas prices have probably now peaked.

Jonathan Davis

COMMODITIES

Coffee price steadily improving

Just for a few blissful moments in the long and acrimonious history of commodity agreements, one seems to be working. Coffee prices are continuing to go better — but only gently. This steady improvement obviously suits the producers, while prices are still low enough by past standards to encourage consumption.

Not that anyone in the coffee business is feeling complacent. Battle lines are now being drawn up for the next set of International Coffee Organization talks next month. Inevitably some of the producers will want to alter the fine tuning on the quota arrangements agreed last September to try to engineer local improvements in their prices.

For the time being a reasonably comfortable balance between supply and demand has obviously been reached.

The International Coffee Organization's policing system on quotas is well disciplined (there is currently little temptation to cheat — unlike the conditions of 1977 when prices rose over £4,000, or four times today's prices). So with high interest rates keeping dealer and industry stocks low, prices are sensitive to any short term hold-up in supplies.

Among the items that will probably be brought up at the March talks is smaller steps between trigger prices. The question of altering groupings of origins, so that quotas can be applied by type, will also be raised again.

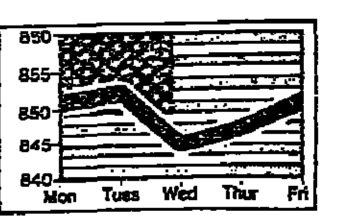
At the sharp end of the business — the consumer coffee market — the manufacturers are still having to work hard at the root of the whole of the soft commodity markets' problems. That is to persuade housewives to buy more.

United Kingdom manufacturers spent £12m last year on television advertising of brand changes. They boosted the market by 6 per cent. The latest product to be pushed is de-caffeinated coffee, and perhaps the advertising boost this month will take some market share from tea, where the price is rising more sharply.

Sally White

MARKETS ROUND-UP

Nervous watch on money supply



Concern over money supply and interest rates is expected to continue to dominate Wall Street this week.

Last week the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 20 points. Most of the fall, which erased gains made in a surprise rally the previous week, came on Monday in response to a disappointingly small fall in the nation's money supply.

Investors are keeping a sharp eye on the money supply because they fear that if it is too high, the Federal Reserve Bank will tighten credit and cause interest rates to rise.

So the money supply figures released on Friday once again disappointed Wall Street.

The supply for the latest reporting week fell $1,400m (£752m) instead of the $3,000m to $5,000m decline that had been predicted. That figure did reflect seasonal adjustments, and would without those revisions have shown a fall of $3,200m, according to the Fed.

The rate of growth in the money supply over the most recent four weeks amounted to 14.3 per cent compared to the same period a year ago, a far cry from the 4 per cent to 5 per cent growth that had been hoped for.

At the end of last week, the Dow stood at 851.03 after small gains on Friday. Stock prices overall showed greater gains with 1,040 shares rising compared with 420 that declined.

JOHANNESBURG

Dominant gold

Activity on the gold board was fast and furious on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange towards the end of last week and is expected to continue this week with talk persisting that South Africa and the Soviet Union have held discussions on a gold sales policy.

It is even being suggested that South Africa has bought some Russian gold to prevent it reaching the market at present, but that seems unlikely as revenue from its own gold sales is plummeting and a large balance of payments deficit is looming.

It was announced in Parliament last week that standby credit facilities of Rand 223m have been arranged with the International Monetary Fund.

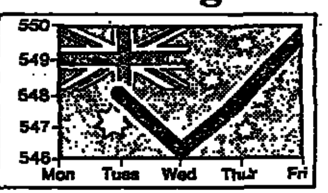
Nevertheless, the talk of a pact of some sort persists and it is pointed out that such an arrangement already exists over diamond sales. It is thought that it might even be expanded to include platinum, chromite and other metals.

With gold again expected to dominate the market, there is concern that Wit Nigel's announcement that it is ceasing operations might be followed by other marginals. It is a clear indication that the lower gold price is biting hard, but market sources point out also that Wit Nigel is an independent operation.

Edgars Stores, the country's biggest clothing chain with a Rand 450m turnover, is also due to report after a hectic battle last week when South African Breweries launched a Rand 66.5m raid for control but was blocked by London-quoted Liberty Life.

SYDNEY

Week for giants



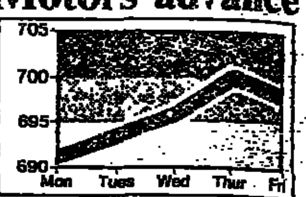
All attention will be on the iron and steel giants this week with perhaps Broken Hill Proprietary the only one to produce an encouraging earning report.

BHP, which is Australia's biggest company, will announce its net profit for the six months to the end of November, which will give an indication of whether it expects the huge profits to continue with appropriate response on the Stock Exchange. The company had a record A$486m (£285m) net profit in 1980-81. Last September, Sir James McNeill, the chairman, said that figure was unlikely to be exceeded this year. BHP earned A$225m in the first half of 1980-81.

Two of the other big mining companies, Western Mining Corporation and Bougainville Copper, will also produce earning reports this week but their results are almost certain to be down considerably as a result of weak world metal prices. Bougainville is unlikely to achieve aything like the A$94.4m it earned in 1980.

FRANKFURT

Motors advance



Selective buying by foreign investors has had a greater impact on German stock markets than the Bonn government's latest package of measures to revive the economy.

The Commerzbank Index continued its undramatic rise last week, breaking through the 700 barrier on Thursday before closing at 698.1 on Friday. Motors were one of the few sectors to benefit directly from the government's efforts. They advanced strongly when it became clear that Bonn would not be financing its economic programme through higher petrol taxes and on the expectation that the proposed investment subsidy would boost demand for cars and trucks.

HONGKONG

Uneasy market

With the lack of any positive local news a nervous market followed Wall Street's lead by shedding 52 points during the week.

The Hang Seng index closed at 1,365.70, while average daily turnover was HK$142.2m (£12.99m), an 18-month low. Institutions remained on the sidelines.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Living with cruel February

In the mythology of the Eurobond market, February is the cruellest month. "The best thing about February is that it only has 28 days," said one bond dealer. But will this month really be so grim?

The evidence for supposing that bond traders this month will be buying less champagne than usual is in two categories. The first is experience: dealers say that 1977 is the most recent year in which February showed any life.

Why this should be so is, to say the least, mysterious. Explanations range from the dates on which investors take their winter holidays, through the preparation of corporate and national budgets, to the tendency of banks and their clients to start the new year briskly, only to find that indigestion sets in.

However inadequate this may be, markets thrive on such folklore and it takes a brave and clever banker to gainsay conventional wisdom and launch his client upon supposedly apathetic investors.

Bond markets are finely judged at the best of times, and the reputation — and therefore future business — of a house largely depends on matching offer terms and timing to the market.

So we come to the second and more substantial argument: the immdiate market outlook is even harder to read than normal.

When American banks raised their prime rates a week ago dealers' groans could be heard all the way from Moorgate. Is one to assume that hopes of falling rates have been dashed? Even if we are about to see rates over 20 per cent again, as some gloomy pundits maintain, has the market the ingenuity to conjure up newly attractive instruments?

One theory is that another rise in interest rates has already been adequately discounted. Yields of 17 per cent on well-rated bonds should offer a fair measure of protection, and floating rate notes, one of last year's successes, are paying almost as much. Moreover, zero coupon bonds are intended as a defence against precisely this eventuality, although it is interesting that only about $600m has been raised from the nominal $1,600m of zero coupon bonds issued last month.

Dealers point out that straight dollar Eurobonds are still selling reasonably well in Switzerland, buoyed by expectations that higher American interest rates will support the dollar.

Since few people are forecasting a weaker dollar, and some, on the contrary, suggest it could move up to levels prevailing last summer, this seems a reasonable and reassuring assumption.

The market has also been encouraged by a steady secondary market in zero-coupon bonds. J. C. Penny's $300m issue, due 1994, and the two offerings from General Electric, have been particularly favoured by investors. Nevertheless, the efforts by the Japanese authorities to discourage their bond houses from selling too many zero coupon bonds issued abroad have given cause for thought.

Another issue which appears to be going well is the $250m of floating rate notes offered by the mighty Societe Générale of France. But it is pointed out that the issue, made in the middle of last week, was aimed at institutions. A high minimum purchase deters private investors and a 0.375 per cent fee is payable if the paper is held to maturity.

These discreet facts indicate a relatively healthy Market. One does not have to delve into the more esoteric possibilities held out by, say, Australian corporate bonds, to accept that the Eurobond market is not resilient. It is true that February is unlikely to be the year's most lively trading period. But at the same time it does not yet look as bad as market mythology might lead one to suppose.

Michael Prest

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

STRAIGHT DEBT	Price	YIM
Australia 8% 1982	99	14.79
ICI 11% 1983	95	15.38
New Zealand 8¼% 1983	95	13.71
Canadair 8¾% 1983	92	14.75
Sweden 15¼% 1983	99	15.53
ARDB 12% 1983	95	15.05
Ford 16% 1984	99	16.25
Sweden 9¾% 1984	88	15.61
GMAC 11% 1984	91	14.96
SNCF 12¾% 1985	93	15.51
Roylease 11¾% 1985	90	15.11
Credit Nationale 13¾ 1986	94	15.66
Exportfinans 11¼ '87	88	14.84
World Bank 10¼% 1987	81	15.47
Amoco UK 13¼% 1988	91	15.60
Repsol 11¼% 1988	80	16.78
EIB 13¾% 1990	89	16.15
Anheuser-Busch 11¼% 1990	81	15.39
United Biscuits 11% 1990	74	16.75
Quebec Hydro 13 1991	84	16.38
Ontario Hydro 13¼% 1991	90	15.57
Barclays 8¼% 1992	68	14.46
Hudson's Bay 10 1994	71	15.27
Dow Chemical 9¾% 1994	72	14.68
EEC 11% 1995	72	16.02
ECSC 8¾% 1997	61	15.44
Beatrice 4¼% 1992	68	11.21
Eastman Kodak 4¼ '88	84	12.26
Ford 5% 1988	68	98.01
Galveston-Houston 8 1994	97	2.18
INA 6% 1997	130	0.07
Lear Petroleum 8 1989	87	18.79
J P Morgan 4¼ 1987	103	0.96
Revlon 4¼% 1987	83	10.30
Sperry Rand 4¼ 1988	74	24.40
Warner Lambert 4¼ 1987	71	61.53
Xerox 5% 1988	61	136.59

CONVERTIBLE BONDS	Price	Conv Prem
Alco Standard 9¼% 1994	92	2.62

FLOATING RATE NOTES	Price	Crrnt Yld
BNP 1983	100	15.25
IBJ 1985	99	15.27
Offshore Mining 1986	99	15.37
Midland 1987	99	13.10
Credit National 1988	99	15.22
CZB 1989	100	16.00
Barclays 1990	99	18.71
BNP 1991	100	19.06
Midland 1992	99	13.81
Chase Manhattan 1993	99	15.85
Nat West 1994	99	16.66
Barclays 1995	100	15.88

DEUTSCHMARK ISSUES	Price	YIM
O.K.B. 9% 1987	97	9.67
World Bank 7¾ 1988	89	9.98

Source: Kidder Peabody Securities Limited.

WEEKLY LIST OF FIXED-INTEREST STOCKS

	Latest price	Prev Price
Alb & Wilson 7¼ Deb '85-90	61	61
All Lyons 6¼ Deb '87-92	50	55
Do 7¼ Ln '93-98	56	55
AB Foods 5¼ Ln '87-2002	19p	19
Assoc Elec 6 '78-83	88	88
Do 6¼ Deb '86-91	57	57
BICC 7¾ Deb '90-95	56	56
BLMC 6 '98-2003	50	51
Do 7¼ '87-92	42	41
Do 8 Ln '98-2003	39	40
BOC Int 5¾ Deb '81-86	88	88
Do 9 Tonnage 1988	86	86
Bank of Ireland 7 Ln '86-91	54	52
Barclays Bank 8¼ '86-93	61	62
Barclays Int 7¼ '86-91	58	59
Bass Ltd 5¼ Ln '87-92	44	41
Do 7¼ '92-97	55	56
Do 8¼ Deb '87-92	65	64
Beecham 6¼ Ln '78-85	88	86
Do 8¼ Ln '84-94	61	61
Bibby 10¼ Deb '94-99	68	68
Birmid Qual 7¼ Ln 87-92	47	47
Blue Circle 7 Deb '88-93	57	56
Do 9 Deb '92-97	62	62
Boots 6 Ln '78-83	89	89
Do 7¼ '88-93	58	58
Bridon 8 Deb '88-93	60	57
Brit Am Tob 7 Ln '82-87	85	84
Brit Shoe 7 Deb '80-83	97	97
Brooke Bond 5¼ Ln 2003-08	33	32
Burmah Oil 8¼ Ln '91-96	57	57
Do 7¼ Ln '81-86	74	74
Burton Gp 9¼ Ln '98-2003	62	62
Cadbury Schweppes 8¼ Ln '94-2004	55	55
Coats Patons 4¼ Ln 2002-07	29	30
Do 7¼ '90-95	53	53

	Latest Price	Prev price
Courage 6¼ Ln 2004-09	41	41
Do 8 2nd Deb '89-94	58	58
Courtaulds 6¼ Ln '94-96	45	46
Do 7 '82-87	71	71
Do 7¼ Deb '89-94	61	61
Debenhams 6¼ 2nd Deb	52	52
Do 6¼ Ln '86-91	56	55
Do 7¼ Ln 2002-7	50	50
Distillers 7¼ '85-95	57	56
Dunlop 6¼ Deb '85-90	65	65
English Elec 6 Deb '80-85	77	77
Fisons 6¼ '84-89	60	60
GEC 7¼ '87-92	57	57
Do 7¼ '88-93	59	59
Gen Acc 7¼ '92-97	54	55
Glaxo 7¼ '85-95	28p	27p
Glynwed 10¼ Ln '94-99	71	71
Grand Met 10 '91-96	69	69
GUS 5¼ Ln	34	35
Do 7¼ Ln '85-88	68	68
Do 8¼ Ln '93-98	54	54
Hawker Sid 7¼ Deb '87-92	64	63
Huntley & Palmer 7¼ Deb '90-95	57	56
ICI 5¼ '94-2004	38	38
Do 7¼ Ln 86-91	59	59
Do 8 88-93	58	59
Imperial Gp 10¼ Ln 90-95	73	72
Do 7¼ 2004-09	49	49
Initial Services 8 Ln 88-93	55	60
Land Securities 8¼ '92-97	60	61
Laporte 10¼ Deb '94-99	69	69
Lewis's Inv Tst 6¼ 2nd '85-90	62	62
Lucas 7¼ '83-88	64	64
MEPC 8 Ln 2000-05	54	55
Metal Box 10¼ '92-97	71	71
Midland Bank 10¼ Ln 93-98	73	73
Nat West Bank 9 Ln 1993	64	63
Rank Hovis 8¼ Ln '91-95	60	60
Do 6¼ Ln 85-88	62	62
Reckitt & Col 6¼ Deb '85-90	61	62

	Latest price	Prev Price
Reed Int 7¼ Deb 90-95	63*	65*
Rugby Port Cem 6 93-98	40	42
Sainsbury (J) 7¼ Deb 87-92	66*	66*
Scot Newcastle 5¼ Deb '79-84	83	83
Do 7¼ Deb '89-94	59	59
Slough Est 7¼ Deb 85-90	65*	65
Smith (W H) 5¼ Ln	30	33
Spillers 7 Deb '78-83	91	93
Do 7¼ Deb '84-89	65	65
Tate and Lyle 7¼ Deb '89-94	57	57
Thomson Org 3 Deb '84-94	72	73
Do 7¼ '87-92	57*	56*
Tilling (T) 8¼ Ln 89-94	61	61
Tootal 4¼ Perp Deb	30	30
Truman Ltd 7¼ Deb '88-93	59	59
Turner & Newall 8 Ln '87-92	57	60
UDS 7¼ Deb '85-90	64	63
Do 10¼ Deb '89-94	74	74
Unigate 6¼ Ln '91-96	49	49
Do 7¼ Deb '86-91	63	62
Unilever 6¼ Deb '85-88	67	67
Watney 7¼ Ln 94-99	51	51
Do 8 Ln '90-95	58	59
Whitbread 7¼ Ln '95-99	51	51
Do 7¼ Ln '96-2000	51	53
CONVERTIBLES		
Adwest 10¼ '95-2000	225	215
AB Foods 7¼ '94-2004	415	415
BLMC 7¼ '82-87	56	56
Beecham 5 '84-94	330	340
Bowater 7 '92-97	99	97
Guest Keen 6¼ 1985	76	74
Imperial Gp 8 '85-90	69	68
Ind & Gen 4¼ '94-99	147*	150
MEPC 6¼ 95-2000	76	77
Midland Bank 7¼ '83-93	70	69
Rom... Tst 4¼ '73-38	122	121
Tate & Lyle 13¼ '98-99	94	93
Temple Bar 6 '87-91	87	97

* Ex dividend

INTER-CITY PEOPLE

W MIDLANDS

Inventors hit a blind spot

Sutton Coldfield inventor Peter Blanchard has made the sale of his career with his Eversure Blindspot Mirror. This device, which goes on car sun visors, is being made and marketed by Eversure Accessories, a BSR subsidiary, at Warley, Worcestershire.

Ironically, this break comes after 20 years in the game, when he is 61 and only four years away from retirement from his job as representative for a manufacturing chemist.

Blanchard, like many other private inventors, says British firms are slow to take up outside inventions. It took him six years to get a British backer for the mirror: one year to find a Japanese.

His advice to rejected inventors? "Never give up. The only people who may have judged your product are the boss's secretary and the landlay."

GLOUCESTER

Home and away



Pippa Collins (left) and Hermione Zatloukal, who are putting their skills as homemakers to work with Colzak, an interior design business they have started with a shop and office in Little Faringdon.

Mrs Collins, whose husband James is a local farmer, is Colzak's seamstress and Mrs Zatloukal, wife of a barrister and director of a London investment company, is the painter. They have designed homes for the film director Richard Young (the does Minder on ITV) and the jockey Philip Blacker, and a nursery suite for the fashion shoe designer Moya Bowler.

They have access to rural craftspeople who will do specialities like hand-painted tiles or intricate carpentry, and are thinking about opening a London showroom.

BRISTOL

ECI sweeps in

There is a new name at Equity Capital for Industry, where John Gough is to be South-West regional adviser.

Although Gough is the group managing director of the Hanham, Bristol, industrial and domestic brushmakers Kleeneze, it's not a case of a new broom at ECI.

The South-West post is a new one for ECI, which is funded by the institutions and finds equity finance for small to medium businesses.

Gough is a member of the CBI national council and vice-chairman of the region. His fellow advisers at ECI are Geoffrey Lavers (Leeds), Eric Sayers (Solihull) and Geoffrey Moss (Manchester).

LEICESTER

Footnotes

Robert Lucas, who helped to establish a footwear industry in the Caribbean, is reviving old shoe-making skills on his own home ground.

Lucas, 44, has won the £5,500 Leicester Small Business Award sponsored by the city's estates department for a project on the manufacture of orthopaedic footwear. Lucas, a former footwear factory manager in Barwell and later a lecturer on footwear making at Hinckley, helped to set up a footwear industry on the island of St Kitts while working for the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

While planning his scheme he went back to school, doing an MSC business course at Durham University's Business School.

Now, with his wife Wendy, he will run his own business from Hinckley. The judges liked his scheme because it is reviving a local skill and will provide disabled people with footwear that looks good.

Ross Davies

NEW APPOINTMENTS

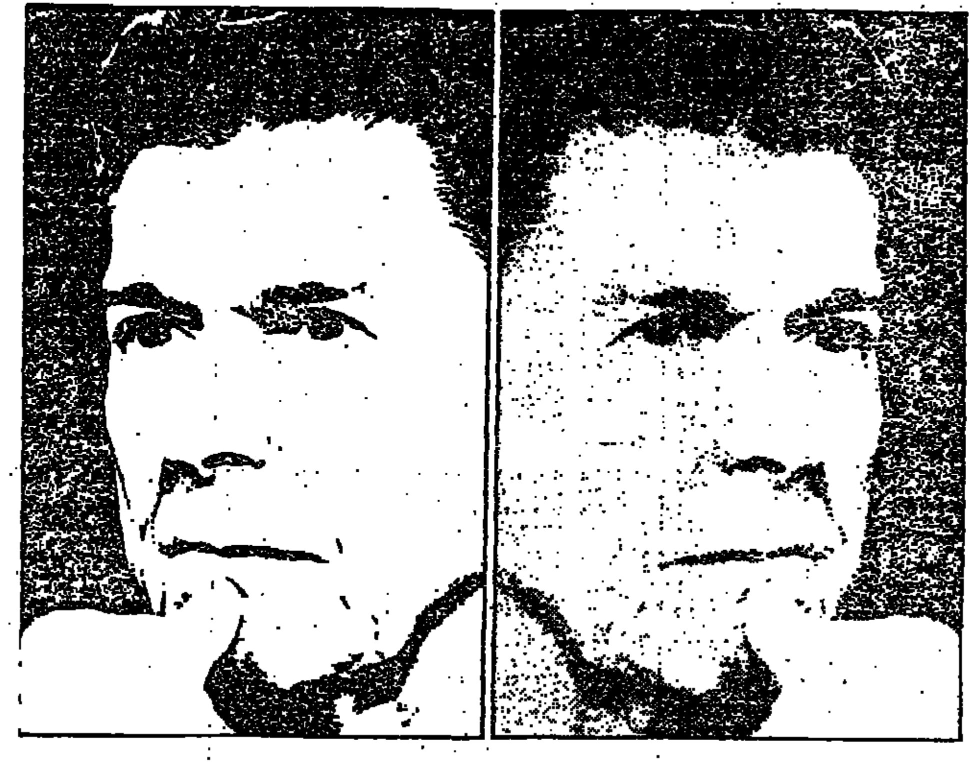
Mr Peter W. Sarkor will succeed Mr Joseph Palmer as chairman of J H Fenner and Co. (Holdings). He is currently, and will remain, chief executive of the company.

Mr A. N. Light has been appointed as group managing director of Lesser.

Mr John M. Fleming has been appointed managing director of Vauxhall Motors, succeeding Mr Ferdinand P. J. Beickler. Mr Fleming has also been elected chairman of Vauxhall Motors in place of Mr Beickler. Mr Beickler returns to Germany as vice president of General Motors Corporation in charge of European Sourced Passenger Car Operations.

INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK: Caroline Atkinson assesses the implications of the American budget

Conflicts in Reagan budget may keep interest rates high



Is he trying to face two ways at the same time?

Europeans hoping for relief from high American interest rates will find little cheer in President Reagan's budget message to Congress today.

The large deficits which have frightened New York financial markets and, in combination with the Federal Reserve tight money policy, have kept interest rates high will continue under Mr Reagan's latest budget. Although he suggests $56,000m worth of measures to shrink government borrowing next financial year, these are expected to meet considerable opposition in Congress.

Even if they were all accepted, the deficit in the year beginning October would be $91,500m, Mr Reagan says, second only to that expected for 1982, the current financial year.

If most of the savings are rejected — as seems likely — the resulting conflict between expansionary budget policy and tight money will hold up interest rates in America, making it harder for the Bank of England and its European counterparts to bring their rates down.

Mr Reagan himself is not nearly as optimistic as he was a year ago about the likely effects of his economic programme. He warns Congress in the budget that there can be no "instant relief" from America's economic problems of high unemployment and interest rates.

Although the recession is still expected to end this spring, the forecast recovery is weak by postwar American standards. Despite declining inflation, interest rates on three-month Treasury bills are forecast to average 11.75 per cent this year and 10.5 per cent next.

Mr Reagan predicts that the economy will grow at an average rate of just under 5 per cent in real terms from the trough of the recession in March to the end of 1985. This growth will not be fast enough to bring down unemployment quickly. The jobless rate is expected to average just under 9 per cent this year, close to its postwar peak, and to remain above 7 per cent throughout 1983 and much of 1984.

Although American unemployment was typically higher than that in Britain during the 1960s and 1970s, 7 per cent is well above even a conservative estimate of full employment. It implies a considerable amount of industrial slack. The jobless rate for blacks and young people would be still higher.

What Mr Reagan does not make explicit, unlike Mrs Thatcher, is that the disappointing growth and continuing high levels of unemployment are the price being paid for bringing down inflation. This, the president predicts, will fall to 7.3 per cent this year and 6 per cent in 1983 after averaging more than 10 per cent in 1981.

High unemployment and unsold products as a result of the present recession are now the main factors curbing wage and price increases. But Mr Reagan attributes the projected fall in inflation to continued tight money, while blaming today's recession and high unemployment on his predecessor, President Carter.

Within the next few months, Mr Reagan argues, this unavoidable recession will end, being followed by a period of sustained growth. Money and credit restraint, meanwhile, will continue to bring down inflation. It is here that most forecasters part company with the President.

Even the relatively gloomy prospect for the economy which Mr Reagan outlines, is too optimistic and based on faulty arithmetic, they believe. For if the Federal Reserve continues the monetary policy which Mr Reagan has requested, and which is presumably supposed to be embodied in the latest official forecasts, then the economy simply cannot grow as quickly as he predicts.

If the Fed eases up, as many believe that it should but few believe will, then the economy might grow as rapidly as the Administration predicts. But then inflation would be unlikely to continue to fall during 1983 and 1984.

The only way to make Mr Reagan's forecast internally consistent would be to have an extraordinary increase in the velocity of money or the ratio of money to total gross national product. This is implicitly what the president assumes.

But velocity increases year after year of the size necessary to reconcile the money and GNP assumptions in the budget are extremely unlikely. Moreover, velocity usually rises when interest rates are high, rather than falling, as Mr Reagan predicts.

The Administration is repeating last year's mistake in this year's budget. Although the president no longer pretends that it is possible to cut taxes, increase defence spending and balance the budget at the same time, he still assumes away the conflict between growth-oriented tax and spending policies and anti-inflation monetary policy. This conflict is likely to upset his economic *plans this* year and in 1983 as it did last year.

> ‘The Administration is repeating last year's mistake in this year's budget. Although the president no longer pretends that it is possible to cut taxes, increase defence spending, and balance the budget at the same time, he still assumes away the conflict between growth-oriented tax and spending policies and anti-inflation monetary policy.’

With monetary policy keeping a tight lid on the economy, the budget policy that Mr Reagan proposes will push up interest rates rather than growth.

The president's budget projects a steady decline in federal government borrowing from the current financial year's record $99,000m to just more than $50,000m in 1987, the last year of the forecast. The deficit is projected to drop by about $10,000m in 1983-4. But declines of this size in a growing economy would still leave the underlying high unemployment budget deficit rising, thus giving a net stimulus to the economy.

A drop in unemployment of one per cent as forecast for 1983, would alone reduce the deficit by about $25,000m. The underlying rise in the deficit comes because Mr Reagan's huge planned increases in defence spending and continued tax cuts swamp the budgetary effect of even the drastic cuts in non-defence spending which the president proposes.

The nature of these suggested spending cuts indicates another basic flaw in today's budget, a political rather than economic one. Unlike in Britain, the American legislature frequently changes the budget proposed by the Administration. Last year, Mr Reagan was extremely successful in winning congressional approval for his proposals, even unpopular ones, to cut spending programmes.

But this year, a third of the *senators and all of the* members of the House of Representatives, face reelection in November. Their constituents are complaining about the recession and about high interest rates. Cuts in the basic social welfare programmes, in aid to local and state governments, in job programmes and special assistance to the cities will be fought long and hard in Congress. It is these programmes which Mr Reagan proposes cutting further.

With defence spending rising by 7½ per cent a year on top of inflation, retirement pensions untouched for political reasons, and no way of cutting the cost of servicing the national debt, remaining spending programmes have to be cut deeply to keep the budget deficit from rising.

Congress is unlikely to make such cuts in an election year. Although budget deficits are politically unpopular here, they are probably easier to fight an election on than further severe cuts in federal spending, or increases in taxes.

The Congressional Budget Office, which provides nonpartisan forecasts of spending and tax revenues, predicted on the weekend that with no policy changes, federal borrowing will rise from last year's level of just more than 2 per cent of GNP to 5 per cent by 1984, and will stay there even if the economy recovers.

This level, while not high by British or European standards, would mark a postwar record for America. Even the deficits during the Vietnam war and the build-up in domestic spending for President Johnson's Great Society were smaller in relation to the size of the economy. The previous postwar peak for the deficit was 4 per cent of GNP in the deep recession of the mid 1970s.

It is harder to finance any given deficit here than in Britain or Europe because American private sector savings are much smaller in proportion to the size of the economy. The Administration has on occasion argued that its cuts in tax rates will lead to such a big increase in savings that larger deficits will be compatible with both lower interest rates and a fast increase in investment.

The Treasury Secretary has recently repeated this. But when challenged last year to provide evidence that present tax policies would lead to such a change in savings behaviour, the Treasury climbed down from its claim it still does have a model of the economy to explain such a prediction.

Other Administration officials have said privately that they are unhappy with the appearance of this argument to justify the continuing large deficits shown in today's budget.

Rather than a big increase in investment, the budget proposals in combination with tight money policy are likely to lead to higher interest rates and less investment. Of course a more restrictive budget would not have boosted growth either. But it would have allowed interest rates to be somewhat lower, with the same monetary policy.

It is also possible that the Federal Reserve might have agreed to raise its money targets slightly in exchange for tighter tax and spending policies. However, for as long as Mr Reagan keeps asking the Central Bank to keep money tight, it is unlikely that the Federal Reserve will dare to ease up and risk taking the blame for any subsequent rise in inflation.

If Mr Reagan really wants the economy to grow rapidly and interest rates to fall, then he will have to call for easier money and to acknowledge that this policy change may mean more inflation as well as more real growth. With today's budget he is trying to face two ways at the same time.

After Laker, Kevin Page looks at other carriers' debts

End of an era for spendthrift airlines

WHAT THEY OWE			
British Airways	$1,860m	Braniff	$476m
Alitalia	$285m	Eastern	$658m
TWA	$672m	Republic	$532m
Pan Am	$1,160m	Laker	$504m

Rash lending by his bankers is said to be one of the main factors in the downfall of Sir Freddie Laker. Parallels with Poland and the property collapse of 1973-74 have been drawn, although due attention has been paid in the past few days to the effects of the recession on air travel and Sir Freddie's own inability to *restrain* himself from putting together a deal on the back of an envelope.

It is true that Laker's bankers were imprudent in lending Laker Airways over £200m, much of it at a time when intense competition for increasingly unprofitable routes was crippling the finances of even the large, national flag carriers like Pan American, TWA and British Airways. It is also true that Midland, Clydesdale and Samuel Montagu should have insisted on, firstly, stricter financial controls and secondly, a proper management structure at Laker.

But Laker must be considered against the international background. In 1981, the world's major airlines suffered losses of $2,100 million (£1,106m). This year losses could total nearly $3,000m. The top 16 American trunk and regional airlines owed $10,000m in long-term debt in 1981 and are expected to borrow at least $20,000m from external sources over the next decade. This is twice as much as they required during the 1970s.

Worldwide, latest estimates are that airlines will need about $100,000m to re-equip their fleets in the next 10 years, of which only $35,000m or $40,000m will be met through internally generated funds. After Laker, it will become more difficult for airlines to receive help from international banks. National flag carriers like BA, Lufthansa, KLM and Air France will find few problems. Most are owned and subsidized by the state, so banks are happy enough to lend at the margin in the knowledge that governments can always raise tax revenues to bail out national airlines. National carriers in the lesser developed countries should not find insuperable problems.

But independent airlines will discover from now on harsher terms. One senior aviation banker in London believes banks will seek to change loan covenants to ensure that money will only be available if say the airline raises its fares. The trouble with this thesis, according to Mr Matt Bowman, head of transportation finance at Merrill, Lynch, in New York, is that an airline cannot increase fares unilaterally. In other words, the bankers would be happy to see the return of price fixing cartels which were blown apart by President Carter's "open skies" policy which announced de-regulation of routes and fares in 1978.

And Mr Bowman does not think much of suggestions from London bankers that banks should insist on management representation on airlines' boards. However, he does agree that despite a current situation in which five or six top United States airlines are in serious financial trouble, those companies which have a relatively strong balance sheet and flying profitable routes, will receive adequate external finance.

Mr Bowman also points out that Laker is a rare case in that the vast majority of his funding was through banking syndicates. Banks in the United States are not volume lenders and account for only 7.7 per cent of airlines' financing requirements. Insurance company loans fund 23.3 per cent of total loans, with public offerings taking up a further 7.9 per cent. Share issues and retained earnings account for 38.9 per cent, while capital leasing arrangements on aircraft form 19.2 per cent of total requirements.

There are exceptions to the general rule that banks only lend to airlines at critical moments when other forms of lending have dried up. Over 84 per cent of Republic's total debt of $532m is owed to the banks. Continental owes over 60 per cent of total debt to banks. In contrast, Pan Am, which has lost $320m in the first nine months of the current financial year and has debt totalling $1,160m, owes only $9m to banks.

To date, bank loans to airlines have been made against airlines' assets, largely aircraft. The problem is that there is serious over-capacity at present, with demand for travel at a low point, and little prospect for improvement through 1982. More than 100 wide-bodied jets such as DC 10s are currently grounded, many of them in the Arizona desert. It is reckoned there are 30 DC 10s (out of a total fleet of 160) available on the resale market. Banks which loaned 80 per cent of the cost of say Boeing 727s, near to the end of their life two years ago, have seen the aircraft's current value drop below the cost of the loans. Bankers are extremely worried about their security margins. The *problem is compounded* because most airlines have few other assets than planes. Pan Am is an exception and was pressured late last year by its bankers to sell its Inter-Continental hotels offshoot to Grand Metropolitan for $500m.

Privately at least, many world airlines and international banks are sighing with relief at Laker's demise (*pro tem?*). "His bankruptcy will bring realism back to prices and will make spendthrift airlines realize that it is possible to go bust," said one senior banker yesterday. But Sir Freddie alone cannot be blamed for introducing cut-price fares which have plunged the industry into huge losses and massive debt. Deregulation in the United States meant that airlines could fly anywhere and charge whatever they thought the market could bear.

Banks worldwide have been more than happy to finance airlines over the past 10 years. The era of regulation, which meant one airline enjoyed a virtual monopoly on a given route, guaranteed revenue. After 1978 the banks believed cheap fares would make air travel one of the few growth industries as the world's young and not-so-young discovered new continents at a *price they could afford.*

Now bankers are predict*ing price increases* of 35 per cent on the transatlantic run, where 40 airlines lost $600m last year. The era of cheap travel is over. The second-hand aircraft market is dead. Airlines must continue to rein back costs. Pan Am employees have already taken what amounts to a £200m wage cut. But as yet there are no signs that the banks are writing off airline debt. The switch from rash lending to a get-tough policy is already underway with bankers smoothly blaming everybody and everything, from Sir Freddie's arrogance to the second energy crisis. But not themselves.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14½%
Barclays	14½%
BCCI	14½%
Consolidated Crds.	14½%
C. Hoare & Co	*14½%
Lloyds Bank	14½%
Midland Bank	14½%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14½%
Williams & Glyn's	14½%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 12%, up to £50,000 12¾%, over £50,000 13¼%.

Business Editor

Budget options for industry

We should, perhaps, be grateful that the Chancellor believes he has any money at all to "give away" on March 9. But if the availability of, say, £1,000m — £2,000m appears to ease some of Sir Geoffrey Howe's problems, it still leaves him with the considerable problem of how to distribute the largesse.

However he chooses to set about it, he stands a good chance of disappointing more people than he pleases.

Just to add to the complications, it seems that the major consideration may not simply be how best to split the money between cuts in the income tax burden and help to industry. The advocates of a reduction in VAT, as the best way to inject new life into the disinflationary process, have also been pressing their case with increasing vigour.

Industry has, of course, been building up its own list of recommendations to the Chancellor; and that will be taken a stage further this week when the CBI publishes details of what it would like to see.

However, there is an irony here in that the corporate sector as a whole is not in the dire straits it appeared to be in 12-18 months back. Corporate profits started to move ahead again last year and many forecasters are looking for a further rise of perhaps a fifth in 1982.

The liquidity position too has improved as a result of the massive run-down in stocks of the past two years. And after last year's round of rights issues, company balance sheets are almost certainly more lowly geared than they have been for a long time. (Indeed, if only interest rates would come down, one suspects there would be no shortage of companies leaping at the opportunity to gear up with some long-term fixed-rate debt.)

This, it is true, is only part of the story. For a start it is a generalization, covering the corporate sector as a whole. There remain plenty of pockets of industry, particularly manufacturing industry, where companies would say that their position was still anything but comfortable. This was all too apparent from last week's CBI industrial trends survey.

Also, the internationally exposed sectors of the economy are still suffering a major competitive disadvantage by historic standards. And if the pound holds up better this year than last, then they will need to make significant further improvements to their internal efficiency simply to keep pace with rapid change elsewhere.

In that sense any help the Chancellor can offer that directly cuts costs for British industry would be welcome. But there are those who would argue that this would not be the best way to set about things and that the way to ensure that managements continue to improve efficiency is by keeping the screws turned tight.

The Chancellor will have to weigh the merits of the respective arguments for *himself*. Certainly, the case for across-the-board help in the form of a cut in the National Insurance Surcharge, unhealthy tax though it is, may be less than clear-cut. Apart from anything else it has the considerable disadvantage of being relatively expensive both in terms of the total amount of money the Chancellor has available, and in terms of the number of people who feel they receive any direct benefit. A 1 per cent cut in the NIS would cost about £750m in 1982-83.

The Chancellor might well feel that provided he gets the general thrust of his policy right, industry will in any case enjoy considerable benefits — overseas developments permitting — from progressively lower interest rates during the course of the year. But that does not rule out smaller parcels of help to industry.

It is hard to see anything much being done about corporation tax. The recent Green Paper is designed to produce changes, if any, for 1983 rather than this year. There might be a case for further cuts in the rate for smaller businesses. But for larger companies it is hard to see that the Chancellor can do much, particularly in what for many companies is the more pressing area — namely unrelieved advanced corporation tax.

For that large clan of companies not paying mainstream corporation tax the Grylls scheme or one of its variants, allowing companies to pay interest on certain borrowings net of the corporation tax rate, could have rather more attractions. But here again, many industrialists might well feel that a lower structure of interest rates in general, and money spent on other schemes, would be more beneficial than the cash flow advantages this kind of arrangement offers.

More specifically, the government could remove some of the problems with rates (whereby, for instance, mothballed plant and empty buildings can still be rated), introduce capital allowances on a wider range of commercial building and accelerate regional development grants, where payment is still delayed four months beyond the approval stage.

A step to make commercial building more attractive would offer some help to the construction industry, one of the hardest pressed sectors, but would not in itself be enough.

There must be a strong temptation for the Chancellor to enable the speeding up of some public sector capital projects or give some form of direct boost to house-building.

The other obvious area the Chancellor might look at would be industry's fuel costs, particularly the electricity costs to the larger users. Overall, though, some of the steam may be taken out of this general area by the downward movement in the oil price.

Whatever the Chancellor does for industry in the Budget, it is certain to be limited. Meanwhile, the debate on the possibility of more radical reform of the corporate tax system is only just starting; and the debate on how to improve the corporate sector's real profitability and share of national income gets nowhere fast.

Money markets

Dollar watch

President Reagan's projection of a $91,600m budget deficit for 1983 after one of $98,600m this year underlines the continuing problems facing the American Administration. But those are problems that are unlikely to be of most immediate concern to world financial markets.

The markets' short-term worry continues to be the present state of United States monetary policy. On this issue New York appeared to finish last week in a state of some confusion. The weekly money supply figures, albeit adjusted, seemed to go down well enough, but the minutes of the December meeting of the open markets committee suggested that the Fed is indeed looking to slow monetary growth considerably.

That, of course, was in December and since then Fed chairman Mr Paul Volcker has suggested that the recent surge in M1 may only be temporary.

Meanwhile the London discount houses will be *keeping an eagle eye on the* response of foreign exchange markets and Eurodollar interest rates this morning. If the signs are favourable, then the houses, which hope for reasonably easy money market conditions in the first half of the week, may well be tempted to see if the Bank is yet ready for a further cut in bill rates.

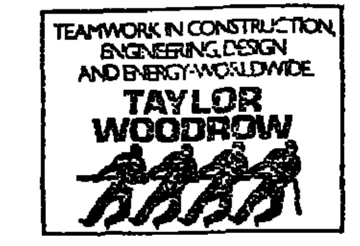
Stock Exchange Prices

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 25. Dealings End Feb 12. § Contango Day, Feb 15. Settlement Day, Feb 22

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)



BRITISH FUNDS

Stock out-standing £	Stock		Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Int only Yield	Gross Red Yield
SHORTS						
600m	Treas	14% 1982	99		14.010	14.874
800m	Treas	8¼% 1982	97¾		8.430	13.630
1600m	Exch	9¼% 1982	96¾		9.549	14.693
800m	Exch	8¼% 1983	93¾	..	9.138	13.890
1000m	Exch	3% 1983	93		3.227	10.323
1550m	Treas.	12% 1983	97¾	+¼	12.288	14.430
800m	Treas	9¼% 1983	95½	..	9.686	12.795
800m	Exch	13½% 1983	99½		13.567	13.794
900m	Exch	10% 1983	94¾		10.540	13.209
500m	Fund	5½% 1982-84	89		6.161	11.872
1100m	Exch	11½% 1984	95¾	..	11.748	13.731
1100m	Exch	14% 1984	99¼		14.106	14.377
1250m	Exch	3% 1984	83¾		3.580	11.000
1050m	Treas	12% 1984	94		12.732	14.687
1000m	Treas.	15% 1985	100¼		14.952	14.949
1000m	Exch Cv	12% 1985	92		13.008	15.206
1250m	Treas	3% 1985	77		3.898	11.630
1100m	Treas	11½% 1985	90¾		12.671	15.043
1300m	Exch	12¼% 1985	92		13.316	15.078
1150m	Exch	11¾% 1986	90½		13.058	15.101
500m	Treas	3% 1986	72½		4.138	11.285
1150m	Treas	12% 1986	89¾		13.330	15.342
600m	Treas	8½% 1984-86	82½		10.303	13.936
1000m	Exch	14% 1986	95		14.736	15.519
500m	Exch	13¼% 1987	93½		14.227	15.269
MEDIUMS						
559m	Fund	6½% 1985-87	77¾		8.571	13.020
1250m	Treas	12% 1987	90¾		13.768	15.454
500m	Treas	7¾% 1985-88	76¼		10.198	13.799
1052m	Trans	3% 1978-88	62¾		4.796	11.416
600m	Treas	11½% 1989	83½		13.707	15.326
601m	Treas	5% 1986-89	66		7.762	12.292
850m	Treas	13% 1990	90¼		14.468	15.348
1000m	Exch	12½% 1990	91¼		14.456	15.493
600m	Treas	8¼% 1987-90	73¾		11.401	13.958
2000m	Treas	11¾% 1991	83½		14.213	15.390
400m	Fund	5¾% 1987-91	63		9.424	13.216
800m	Exch	11% 1991	82¾		13.930	15.192
850m	Treas	12¾% 1992	88		14.526	15.260
600m	Treas	10% 1992	74½		13.385	14.926
2150m	Exch	12¼% 1992	84		14.488	15.257
1000m	Exch	13½% 1992	95		15.006	15.458
1100m	Treas	12½% 1993	86½		14.599	15.198

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

Capitalization £	Company	Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Gross div pence	Div yld %	P/E
25.8m	AAH	90	+2	6.7	7.5	7.1
5,172,000	AB Electronics	133	..	5.7	4.3	..
52.0m	AE PLC	53	−2	2.0	3.8	7.9
67.0m	AGB Research	279	• +7	8.3	3.0	28.5
1,560,000	AI Ind Prod	16	+1	0.0e	0.1	..
81.6m	APV Hldgs	268	+5	12.9	4.8	6.5
12.6m	Aaronson Bros.	48	−2	3.0	6.5	16.9
29.4m	Acrow 'A'	48	−2	1.1e	2.2	..
17.5m	Advance Serv	59	+2	4.7	8.0	7.7
39.3m	Adwest Group	192	+2	10.7	5.6	11.1
9,000,000	Aeron't & Gen.	225	+5	5.0	2.2	15.2
——	AKZO	550	+10	..	..	..
1,562,000	Allen W. G.	42	..	..e	..	..
76.4m	Allied Colloids	177	• +4	4.0	2.3	29.6
2,448,000	Allied Plant	16	+1	..	..	3.2
35.0m	Amal Metal	558		8.6	1.5	11.9
2,546,000	Amber Day	19½	−1	..	..	..
22.3m	Amstrad	240	+40	5.6	2.4	16.3
46.9m	Anderson Strath	99	+1½	5.9	5.9	11.0
16.6m	Anglia TV 'A'	128	−4	8.6	6.7	6.3
548.0m	Anglo Amer Ind	£12	−1	89.8	7.5	3.9
5,448,000	Aquascutum 'A'	32½	−1½	2.9	9.0	10.8
45.0m	Argyll Foods	107	−2	4.6	4.3	14.8
11.4m	Ash & Lacy	275	..	17.9	6.5	7.0
11.5m	Ass Book	316	+6	11.7	3.7	20.6
532.0m	Ass Brit Food	148	• −2	5.4	3.7	7.7
40.1m	Ass Comm 'A'	74	h +5	..e	..	..
12.6m	Ass Fisheries	73	+2	1.4	2.0	26.6
20.9m	Ass Leisure	60	−1	7.5	9.4	5.7
57.1m	Ass News	188	• +3	14.9	7.9	7.4
8,571,000	Ass Paper	60	• +3	3.4	5.7	9.3
1,856,000	Atkins Bros	58		7.1	12.3	7.1
641,000	Audiotronic	5½	−2½	..e	..	..
675,000	Do Pref	4½	−½	..	..	..
6,287,000	Ault & Wiborg	32	−2	1.7	5.3	..
4,253,000	Aurora Hldgs	20	−4	..e	..	..

SHIPPING

Capitalization £	Company	Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Gross div pence	Div yld %	P/E
125.6m	Brit & Com	388	+7	19.3b	5.0	7.8
61.2m	Caledonia Inv	348	+5	20.0	5.7	23.2
32.1m	Fisher J	141	..	3.3	2.3	11.3
9,216,000	Jacobs J. I.	40	+2	3.3	8.2	17.2
143.1m	Ocean Trans	137	−2	12.9	10.1	6.8
195.7m	P & O 'Dfd'	138	−2	11.4	8.3	8.7

MINES

Capitalization £	Company	Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Gross div pence	Div yld %	P/E
354.3m	Anglo Am Coal	£14½	..	51.6	3.6	
1,480.9m	Anglo Am Corp	653	+10	58.4	8.9	
839.6m	Ang Am Gold	£35¼		615	18.1	
396.7m	Anglo Am Inv	£39⅞		504	12.6	
39.2m	Angloraal	£22	..	167	7.6	
39.2m	Do 'A'	£22	..	167	7.6	
381.6m	Asarco	£12¾		42.9	3.5	
120.9m	Blyvoors	504	−13	108	21.3	
16.9m	Bracken Mines	121	..	33.2	27.4	
183.5m	Buffelsfontein	£16		349	20.9	
——	CRA	169	+6	..	..	
263.7m	Charter Cons	256	−2	14.8	5.8	
900.9m	Cons Gold Fields	484	..	35.0	7.2	
1,186.8m	De Beers 'Dfd'	363	+11	43.2	11.9	
86.2m	Doornfontein	£8¾		107	12.4	
113.2m	Driefontein	£11¾		170	14.5	
19.1m	Durban Rood	£8¼	+½	99.5	12.1	
3,618,000	East Dagga	97	+2	..e	..	
30.1m	E. Rand Prop	£5		..	..	
3,383,000	El Oro M & Ex	75	+5	3.0	4.0	
35.6m	Elsburg Gold	118	• +4	14.3	12.1	
176.8m	F S Geduld	£16		347	20.5	
3,863,000	Geevor Tin	150	..	..e	..	
739.0m	Gencor	£9½		88.8	9.4	
558.4m	Goldfields S.A.	£34	..	272	7.9	
49.1m	Grootvlei	430	−7	80.2	18.8	
22.9m	Hampton Gold	164	+2	3.6	2.2	
175.5m	Harmony	£6		128	19.3	
283.5m	Hartebeest	£25		407	16.1	
277.3m	Jo'burg Cons	£38	+1¼	330	8.7	
105.4m	Kinross	566	+3	97.4	16.8	

Celtic passion of forwards moves Ireland one step closer to triple crown and Wales away from the wooden spoon

Dad's Army rekindle days of 1949

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

England 15 Ireland 16

It was ironic at Twickenham that one crucial analysis, a marvellous conversion by Campbell from wide on the right across a testing wind, should have spelled the difference between success and failure on Saturday. That justice was amply done, by a goal, two penalty goals and a try to a goal and three penalties, no one can deny.

Ireland now have Scotland to beat in Dublin on Saturday week to put their hands on the mythical triple crown for the first time since 1949 and the days of Jackie Kyle and a renowned back row. That year, Ireland completed the triple crown with a victory over Wales in Swansea. In 1948, when they won the grand slam for the only time, the finale was played out, also against Wales, at Ravenhill, Belfast.

Their impressive new leader, Ciaran Fitzgerald, observed that the triumphant progress of an inspired, tenacious pack, was especially rewarding for "a lot of senior guys who have done a lot for Irish rugby". In its speed and reaction to the loose ball, in its staying power, a seasoned trio affectionately known as Dad's Army, enjoyed a prosperous afternoon which finished with Slattery in his fifty-fourth international, relaxed and confident enough to act as an extra stand off half.

Ireland mostly put their act together with a purposeful control their opponents never threatened to match. Orr's scrummaging against Blakeway was a key factor in denying England's mastodons the degree of superiority expected in the tight. On a purely factual count, Ireland lost the lineouts 27—17, with level pegging, 10—10, in the second half. But that was a Pyrrhic English success as Smith, the deputy captain, condemned to clear up a frequent mess, would be the first to testify.

Behind the Irish forwards, McGrath had a finely rounded day at scrum half, and Campbell one that his coach, Tom Kiernan, thought even more impressive than that masterly display against Wales. The Irish backs may have looked dangerous only from broken play but the midfield tackling, notably from Campbell and Michael Kiernan, was immense, as was that of MacNeill, secure and flawless at fullback.

In many respects, England put the clock back with an incoherent, disorganised performance that even Beaumont's presence could not have influenced. This reluctant spectator could have done nothing about the half chances buried by handling mistakes, spreading contagiously from the moment Slemen put down his first pass.

Even allowing for the speed and fury of the Irish defence, which too often lost England possession in the tackle, the losers seemed unduly wedded to the mispass and doing things the complicated way. Davies did wondrously under pressure to make a late try for Slemen, but had a game which may be likened to that well-known curate's egg. Rose, who seems rarely to do things by halves, had an uneven first period but then, apart from dropping an acceptable pass, finished strongly by landing two more thumping penalties as well as a conversion with the last kick of the contest.

By his own high standards, Slemen did not kick for touch as well as he can, and he once suffered the indignity of having a kick charged down when too ambitious in his own 22. Carleton dropped one good pass and another, less culpably, when scissoring with Bond. One wondered to what extent the calming aura of Dodge was missed.

Beaumont assuredly was missed as a leader up front where Scott and Colclough looked to be needing more match preparation after their injuries. Scarcely a move close in was mounted by the loose forwards to keep things tight and mask an overall lack of mobility. Scott was nothing like the force at the lineout that he can be. His control at the base of the scrummage brought three points for Irish offside, but the delayed heel was overdone.

Ireland did not make the same mistake. Just after Slattery, pouncing on some dreadful English lineout ball, had all but scored an early try, a swift, solid heel had McGrath doing just enough on the short side of the scrummage to put in MacNeill for the first try.

This time, another superb kick by Campbell hit a post, but the maestro unerringly found the target with two first-half penalties and almost landed a third, difficult one after obstruction by Rose. The husky England full-back generously mis-hit two long shots into the teeth of the wind, but kicked a good penalty to make it 10—3 to Ireland at the interval.

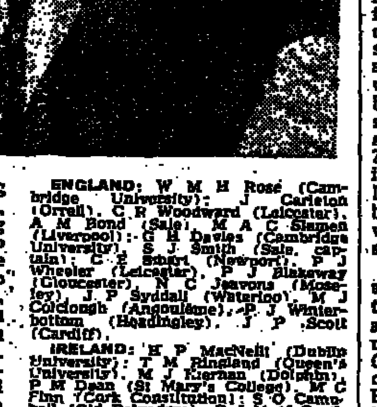
Rose stroked home a second when the spring-heeled Lenihan was given extra lift off, whereupon Ireland, the way their opponents were playing, left them with a mountain to climb by scoring a rousing try. It sprang from a crooked feed by Smith, who at once atoned by charging down Campbell's attempted drop shot. But Ireland worked the loose ball right—Fitzgerald to Campbell, inside to Slattery, Campbell again, then Duggan and, finally, McLoughlin driven irresistibly to the English line. The ginger-haired prop wryly suggested afterwards that he had pulled the rest of them over with him.

Midway through the second half Rose offered England faint hope of a reprieve by kicking his third penalty. Finally, in injury time, Winterbottom won a long English throw and, when the ball went loose, it bobbled back to Davies, who managed somehow to throw a long and accurate scoring pass to Slemen on the left.



Grounded: Beaumont, England's injured captain, watches helplessly from the stands as MacNeill scores Ireland's first try.





ENGLAND: W M H Rose (Cambridge University); J Carleton (Orrell), C R Woodward (Leicester), A M Bond (Sale), M A C Slemen (Liverpool); G H Davies (Cambridge University), S J Smith (Sale, captain); C E Smart (Newport), P J Wheeler (Leicester), P J Blakeway (Gloucester), N C Jeavons (Moseley), J P Syddall (Waterloo), M J Colclough (Angoulême), P J Winterbottom (Headingley), J P Scott (Cardiff).

IRELAND: H P MacNeill (Dublin University); T M Ringland (Queen's University), M J Kiernan (Dolphin), P M Dean (St Mary's College), M C Finn (Cork Constitution); S O Campbell (Old Belvedere), R J M McGrath (Wanderers); P A Orr (Old Wesley), C F Fitzgerald (St Mary's College, captain), G A J McLoughlin (Shannon), J F Slattery (Blackrock College), M I Keane (Lansdowne), D G Lenihan (University College, Cork), J B O'Driscoll (London Irish), W P Duncan (Blackrock College).

Referee: A M Hosie (Scotland).

International table

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Ireland	2	2	0	0	4
Wales	2	1	0	1	2
Scotland	1	0	1	0	1
England	2	0	1	1	1
France	1	0	0	1	0

The Welsh dragon sharpens its claws

By David Hands

Wales 22 France 12

The Welsh dragon, if not its usual crimson, regained a healthy pink flush at Cardiff's National Stadium on Saturday. National pride reasserted itself and a storming performance by the Welsh forwards, so disappointing in the previous match in Dublin, served notice to England that the Welsh will descend on Twickenham in a month with their usual confidence.

But the French coach, Jacques Fouroux, will surely still be suffering nightmares about the performance of his tight forwards after watching his team suffer defeat by a try and six penalty goals to a goal and two penalties. His gamble in introducing the French south-west division into his back line could not be said to have failed; it was never given the chance to succeed by forwards who threw the game in Wales's face, even when the Welsh showed signs that they were not capable of taking it.

Wales dominated the ball from first to last. The only surprise was that, on a firm pitch, both sides began so adventurously; it may have been expected from the French but, as their captain, Gareth Davies, confirmed afterwards, Wales also went out with a positive attitude, determined to put the woes of Lansdowne Road behind them.

The feature of their domination was the ease with which they won lineout ball, in the ratio of three to one. Aided by the horribly erratic throwing of the French hooker, Dintrans, they won the ball up and down the line with a significant return from the new cap, Sutton, whose lean and hungry look appeared even leaner as he launched his 6ft 5½in frame skywards in a succession of clean, two-handed takes.

They dominated the loose ball too. Despite a series of brave tackles by Rives, whose facility for lying in an offside position does not diminish with the passing years, Burgess and Lewis, aided by a renascent Squire, provided a stream of ruck and maul ball. The only area of possession slightly less than secure was the set scrum: it was not until the 26th minute that one took place, itself a remarkable statistic, and Dintrans managed to scrape three balls against the head though he was penalized for dropping the scrum after the second.

Sadly, however, Wales were able to do little constructive with their possession. Holmes, after a traumatic domestic week, was uncharacteristically indecisive. Gravell was too frequently taken out man and ball and though Evans inspired moments of alarm in the French defence—he was over the line once but could not touch down—it was to the boot that Wales looked for their points.

They were not disappointed. Like backward children, France persisted in obvious lineout offences, in killing rucks by going offside and in occasional bouts of stupid indiscipline. If Cremaschi and Revallier were the main offenders, others were not far behind, and Mr Burnett's whistle worked overtime. The consequence was that Evans equalled the somewhat dubious record held by the New Zealander, Don Clarke, in having kicked six penalties in an international.

The newcomer, Lescarboura, and Sallefranque—it appears that these two are inter-changeable in the successful Dax side—revealed the ability to kick a rugby ball an extremely long way but they had little opportunity to do much else. The French forwards may be a different proposition in Paris, but they desperately need Joinel in their back row and another lineout man of quality.

Evans kicked two of his penalties in the first half, when Wales trailed 6—9, and four in the second, missing two others en route. Sallefranque opened the scoring with a penalty and then converted a try by Blanco. This stemmed, ironically, from a catch by Rives at the tail of a lineout and a massive switch of direction by Lescarboura which left France taking advantage of a 3—2 overlap. Martinez kicked a further French penalty after the interval which tied the scores at 12—12 before Squire's pick-up sent Gravell away and Ackerman supported before Holmes, on his shoulder, forced his way over at the corner.

WALES: G Evans (Maesteg); R A Ackerman (Newport), R W R Gravell (Llanelli), D S Richards (Swansea), C F W Rees (London Welsh); W G Davies (Cardiff, captain), T D Holmes (Cardiff); I Stephens (Bridgend), A J Phillips (Cardiff), G Price (Pontypool), R C Burgess (Ebbw Vale), S Sutton (Pontypool), R D Moriarty (Swansea), J R Lewis (Cardiff), J Squire (Pontypool).

FRANCE: M Sallefranque (Dax); S Blanco (Biarritz), P Perrier (Bayonne), C Belascain (Bayonne), L Pardo (Bayonne); J Lescarboura (Dax), G Martinez (Toulouse); M Cremaschi (Lourdes), P Dintrans (Tarbes), R Paparemborde (Pau), J-P Rives (Toulouse, captain), A Lorieux (Grenoble), D Revallier (Graulhet), P Lacans (Beziers), L Rodriguez (Mont de Marsan).

Referee: D I H Burnett (Ireland).

This is my ball, try taking it away from me, Terry Holmes seems to be saying.

Gerald Davies comments:

Backs need to be fed more quickly

Whilst there was general agreement that there was a significant improvement on the Welsh performance of a fortnight ago there was none the less some disappointment. It was a comfortable victory but there was no excitement. The scrummage which had disintegrated so completely in Lansdowne Road was solid and the back row defence, with the inclusion of Burgess, was tighter than in the two previous games.

But it was the lineout which proved to be the significant phase of play. Apart from the first quarter when France shared the possession and varied the length of the lineout to advantage and where in the longer ones, Rodriguez confounded both the Welsh pack and the referee by moving as the ball was thrown in from No 7 position at the back to the No 3 position, it was Wales who dominated. Once the referee had picked up this irregularity and penalized Rodriguez the new Welsh pairing of Sutton and Moriarty won just about everything.

If this facet of play is to prove more influential than the scrummage alternative...

Television revenue is so central to the planning of any big cess. If the platform up front has been resolved for the time being the question hanging over the backs still remains.

... Lasch., 166.32; Bolt Cup (Handicap): 1, Gansser 161.54 (handicap 0.30); 2, D Mackie (GB) 161.57 (5.70); 3, U E Schwarzenbach, 161.71 (2.60).

Bobsleigh

All is safe but not well for the British pairings

From Ronald Faux
St Moritz, Feb 7

A track which offered an improved level of safety probably helped put the alpine nations ahead in the world two-man bobsleigh championships which ended here yesterday. The British team, sponsored by Peter Stuyvesant, was depressed to finish thirteenth and twenty-third among thirty bobs representing fifteen nations.

Jonathan Woodall and Paddy Breedin put in a consistently even performance, 0.15 seconds separating their best and worst times on four runs. Malcolm Lloyd and Peter Brugnani made a disastrous final run which dropped them far down the field.

On their third descent of the track a fault in the handle return of their sled required Brugnani to reach forward to pull the handle in. The shift in balance caused a wavering at the top of the run from which they never properly recovered.

The Swiss Olympic champion, Eric Schärer, and his brakeman, Max Ruagg, won the championship half a second ahead of the other Swiss pair, Hans Hilterbrand and ULrich Bächli. It was Schärer's fourth world championship win. In third and fourth places were the two East German sleds.

Mo Hammond, the British team manager, was clearly depressed by the performance, particularly that of Lloyd and Brugnani who had put in far superior times during practice. Both British drivers believed the less dangerous course this year had allowed top competitors to push to the limit knowing there was little chance of an accident on the longer beds.

The improvements had been insisted upon by the sport's governing body following the deaths of four competitors in two years and the large number of crashes at the world championships in Cortina last year. The San Moritz championships have been accident-free.

Lloyd, aged 34, a Staff Sergeant from South Wales, said: "A safer course must tip things even more in favour of countries that can put in a lot of practice beforehand". The results showed clearly that countries with access to their own bob runs did best although Britain has this year lost its superiority among "lowland nations" to Holland who finished eleventh.

RESULTS: 1, Switzerland, 4min 41.33sec; 2, Switzerland, 4:41.86; 3, East Germany, 4:42.00; 13, J Woodall and P Breedin (GB), 4:48.53; 23, M Lloyd and P Brugnani (GB), 4:51.68.

David Duckham comments:

England's selectors would be wise to resist change

The tenacious endeavour and aggressive spirit exhibited by Ireland in the suppression of their far from convincing opponents at Twickenham on Saturday ominously poses the question of England's future in this season's championship. Notwithstanding the absence of their illustrious leader, Bill Beaumont, from whom his fellow players no doubt derive considerable inspiration, and the midfield poise of Paul Dodge, the national team lacked obth the confidence and durability to remain calm while under constant pressure.

Indeed, the more discerning observer might easily conclude that the England performance was a regressive step towards the depression of the past decade when resistance stagnated at a particularly low ebb. Yet the injection of much needed realism into the policy of team selection generated renewed self assurance during the latter part of the seventies and culminated in Beaumont's resolute charge to a magnificent grand slam two years ago.

Over the weekend, the chairman of selectors, "Budge Rogers", faced the unenviable task of deliberating the line-up to meet France at the imposing Parc de Prince Stadium in Paris on February 20. Unquestionably, Beaumont and Dodge will be recalled when the team is announced this morning, but Mr Rogers will have been sorely tempted to make other changes. The form of Huw Davies among others was surely the cause for some concern, and likewise Rose and Scott. However, to identify their peers at the present time would be far from easy, notably so in the case of Davies, whose replacement by either Cusworth or Horton would not necessarily supplement the England initiative.

Cusworth is an exemplary runner (but a poor defender) whereas Horton's expertize lies mainly in his tactical kicking. Ideally the fly half must be heavily imbued wit hboth qualities. Scott clearly suffered from a lack of international match fitness—a temporary disability, perhaps, which he has time to rectify—and his control at the base of the scrummage would be indispensable against the effervescent French. Rose still requires more international experience to fuel his confidence and his long-term prospects, therefore look a more secure proposition than those of his nearest rivals.

The selectors would do well to resist change, if only to avoid the incumbent danger of player unrest which might conceivably dampen resolve. Whatever the final judgment Beaumont and company are now confronted with two nations who historically have provided the most difficult European opposition.

Northampton have the winning lottery tickets

By Gordon Allan

Saracens 4 Northampton 8

It was a match of one half—the first—at Southgate yesterday. That was when the modicum of good rugby the rain and mud allowed was played, and when all the scoring was done. Northampton beat Saracens by two tries to one try and with better goal kicking would have won by more.

Neither team are having an enjoyable season in terms of results. Saracens have won a mere five matches and not only have disappeared from this year's John Player Cup but also failed to qualify for next year's. Northampton, at least, are still in the Cup. They play Leicester on February 27 and are using the games before then to find their best side.

They lost to Bective Rangers on Friday for the first time in 20 years. Yesterday, in conditions that made handling and kicking a lottery, they won the match in the forwards, with the Ebsworth brothers, Matthew and Jonathan, concentrating at half back on putting the ball in the air or along the touchlines.

Underwood scored the first Northampton try. Poole broke away after a short line-out and when the ball emerged from a maul near Saracens' line, Jonathan Ebsworth fed Underwood on the narrow side. Matthew Ebsworth scored when he appeared outside McGuckian, hacked the ball over the line from 30 metres, and outstripped Saracens' defence. Hancock came into the centre from full back to make a try by Miller for Saracens.

I suppose we were lucky on such a day to see as many as three tries. Matthew Ebsworth missed four penalties for Northampton, and Caplan, the former England full back, one. Saracens conceded two five-metre scrummages in the last few minutes, but Northampton could not take advantage. It typified an inconclusive and messy second half.

SARACENS: S Hancock; S Millar, C Goodchild, P Kamara, S Moore; P Eggleton, F Steadman (captain); D Coomber, M Harrison, C Roberts, A Keay, M Pattinson, C Garland, J McGurk (rep, A Dawson), M Newcombe.

NORTHAMPTON: D Caplan; N Underwood, D Woodrow, R Barrel, P McGuckian (captain); M Ebsworth, J Ebsworth; J Maciolowski, P Bryant, G Pearce, G Wilson, V Cannon, K Jensen, M Miller, G Poole.

Referee: P Kingham (London).

French trounce Scots

France beat Scotland 44—4 in the B international in Bourgoin yesterday. The French scored tries through Esteve, Haget, Camberabero, Buchet (two), Cecillon, and Belin. Camberabero kicked five conversions and two penalties. The Scottish try came from Dukalo.

Park-Sale game off

Rosslyn Park and Sale have called off their fixture on February 13 because the two clubs meet in the John Player Cup fourth round a fortnight later. Now Rosslyn Park will play London Welsh at Old Deer Park on the 13th but it will not count as a London merit table match.

Lacrosse

lock forward, Hames, and the sending off of the Harlequin No. 8, Butcher. Hames, a heavyweight boxer who had broken his nose in the quarter final round of the Police Novices' Cup on Tuesday last, retired, his nose bleeding profusely, at the end of the first half when the police led by a try by Tiddy to a dropped goal by Gilbert.

We were half an hour into the seond-half when Butcher received his marching orders for allegedly throwing a punch at a line-out. Moments earlier a ruck had broken up, leaving the Police's stand-off half, Mark Williams, prone on the ground. Williams was carried off on a stretcher suffering from concussion. With three minutes to go

Rowing

of such misfortunes when again they meet here on February 27, in the fourth round of the Cup.

METROPOLITAN POLICE: M Stear; P Tiddy (capt), C Morant, R Locke, R Williams; M Williams (replacement I Burrell), J Montgomery; A Patrick, T Lewis, D Barham, B Ford, J Hames (replacement A Russell), S Roch, M Potra, L Adamson.

HARLEQUINS: S Brinkley; S Moriarty, A Dent, D Hodokiss, G Birkett; G Gilbert, K McHardy; T Claxton, C Kersey, A Barker, R Best (capt), W Cuthbertson, R Riddell, D Cooke, C Butcher.

Referee: J C Little (London).

Gloucester tour still on

Officials and players of Gloucester have backed plans for a rugby tour of South Africa—providing the rugby union do not object.

Jones kicks Wasps home

Superb defence, sharp counter-attacking and polished place kicking by their fly half, Jones, steered Wasps to an emphatic 24—11 win at Moseley on Saturday. Jones did not miss a kick, land two penalties and converting all three tries, scored by Cardus, O'Reilly and Eaves.

After building an 18—4 lead downwind, Wasps spent the second half defending but were aided by some inept Moseley handling despite forward superiority. Wasps still managed to break out for their third try, whereas Moseley's second came during injury time. Thomas and Gifford scored the home tries, Akenhead adding a penalty—his only success from six kicks at goal.

Nick Preston led Richmond to a deserved 13—7 victory over Headingley at Old Deer Park. With the backs given plenty of possession from the line-out and scrum, Richmond scored tries through Preston and Robin Osborne, Colin Green converted one of the tries, and Preston added to his points tally with a penalty.

Headingley, with John Eagle in fine form on the right wing, found many of their attacks breaking down against keen tackling and Preston's long kicking. But they broke through for a try from Dick Jazwinski, and Gary Pickershill dropped a goal.

Weekend results

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: England 15, Ireland 16 (at Twickenham); Wales 22, France 12 (at Cardiff).

CLUB MATCHES: Birmingham 15, Wakefield 14; Bangor 3, Selby 0; Boroughmuir 0, Haddington 7; Bradford 0, Nuneaton 16; Broughton Park 7, Orrell 9; Cambridge University 25, The Army 4; Cheltenham 20, Rugby 6; Carterfield 10, Lymm 20; Doncaster 6, Sedgley Park 20; Fylde 18, Harrogate 9; Gala 18, Kelso 6; Glamorgan Wanderers 15, Weston-super-Mare 6; Glasgow Academicals 10, West of Scotland 34; Glasgow High 3, Watsonians 16; Gosforth 58, New Brighton 9; Hawick 34, Royal High 20; Keighley 13, Penrith 0; Rehda 6, Wharfedale 6; Leicester 19, London Scottish 6; Langholm 10, Melrose 11; Jed-Forest 22, Ayr 15; Morley 20, Halifax 7; Moseley 11, Wasps 24; Northern 9, Vale of Lune 9; Richmond 13, Headingley 7; Roundhay 16, Hartlepool Rovers 4; Ruthin 4, Davenport 20; Sale 7, Liverpool 10; Selkirk 14, Kilmarnock 15; Sheffield 34, St Helens 3; West Hartlepool 16, Heriot's FP 14; Stewarts Melrose FP 16, Edinburgh 14; Oxford University 13, Sydney (Australia) 10; Exeter 3, St Ives 3; Yarnbury 12, Ilkley 0; London Irish 20, Clontarf 0; Saracens 4, Northampton 8; Blackheath 21, Palmerston (Ireland) 6; Metropolitan Police 4, Harlequins 9; Coventry 27, Waterloo 0.

SCHOOLS: Abbot Bayne 0, King Henry VIII, Coventry 23; Bethany 25, Lancing 0; Christ's Hospital 9, Gowerton 7; Chichester HS 0, Portsmouth GS 10; Dartford 39, Haberdashers' Aske's, Hackham 0; Fettes 50, Stewarts Melville 0; Glenalmond 9, Glasgow Academy 4; Gravesend 19, St Mary's, Sidcup 21; High Wycombe RGS 13, Gunnersbury 34; King Edward's, Birmingham 0, Queen Mary's, Walsall 23; Loretto 27, George Watson's 6; Maidstone 0, Sevenoaks 6; Nottingham HS 35, Carlton-le-Willows 3; Rochester Math 18, Chislehurst & Sidcup GS 7; St Joseph's Academy, Blackheath 29, Eltham 9; St Olave's 36, Emanuel 3; Wallington HS 0, Judd 10; Warwick 35, Dunsmore 3; West Park 8, King's, Macclesfield 9; Whitehaven 36, Workington 5; Hampton 8, St Benedict's, Ealing 11.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Combined London OB's 14, Netherlands "B" 0 (at South Croydon).

Table tennis

Mrs Hammersley recovers form, but loses title

From a Special Correspondent
Nantes, Feb 7

Jill Hammersley lost her European Top Twelve title here today to add to the loss of her English Open title last month. The winner was Bettine Vriesekoop, a 20-year-old from the Netherlands, and another 20-year-old, Mikal Appelgren, surprisingly won the men's event. Desmond Douglas's challenge effectively disappeared after three defeats in the first two days, but the English champion later improved to finish third.

With a series of disappointing defeats for Mrs Hammersley this season at the age of 30, the facts might seem to suggest that the beginning of the end is near for the woman who is probably the best player England has ever had. The facts though, do not point to the truth.

It was an encouraging performance for her to finish second and come within two points of beating Miss Vriesekoop, whose advance to the European number one ranking this season made her an overwhelming favourite. Mrs Hammersley has had to negotiate a retirement, a serious domestic upset, and recently loss of motivation, but for the first time in weeks she was buzzing again.

The most important explanation for that is her new bat. She attained nine victories with it and only lost 22—20, 17—21, 20—22, to Miss Vriesekoop in the final match of the tournament that had 300 people, most of them French, exercising their lungs in appreciation of two foreigners.

It is only three weeks since she adopted the bat, identical to that used by Douggie Johnson, England's new find.

She twiddled the bat frequently during the rallies, pushed with both the slow and the fast sides, and hit hard more often than she used to. Marie Harachova, the Czech who beat her in the European Superleague before Christmas, was this time completely baffled and the European champion herself, Valentina Papova of the Soviet Union scored only 19 points. Miss Vriesekoop too, was looping forehands into the net and off the table. With a little more steadiness on her backhand, Mrs Hammersley might have outwitted her as well.

Miss Vriesekoop refused to shake hands at the end of the match. There is no doubt that Mrs Hammersley's adoption of this particular combination bat—she has used others before—will intensify the controversy that surrounds them.

BOMBAY: Commonwealth championships, men's singles, first round: Manmeet Singh (India) beat K Jackson (England) 22—20, 21—19, 21—11; Man Kuen Chiu (Hongkong) beat N Eckersley (England) 21—9, 21—13, 21—10; K Rodger (Scotland) beat Munawar Saif (Pakistan) 21—17, 21—11, 18—21, 21—14. Second round: Kamlesh Mehta (India) beat Rodger 21—16, 21—10, 21—10; D Parker (England) beat B Griffiths (NZ) 21—12, 21—17, 15—21, 21—11; Sheng Sui Chen (Hongkong) beat R Yule (Scotland) 17—21, 21—10, 16—21, 21—10, 22—20; V Chandramouli (India) beat D Hannah (Scotland) 22—24, 21—19, 21—17, 21—18; P Day (England) beat E Ozuum (Nigeria) 19—21, 21—13, 21—19, 20—22, 21—12. Women's singles, first round: C Dalrymple (Scotland) beat B McKnight (Canada) 21—12, 21—13, 21—9. Second round: C Knight (England) beat S Acouso (Sri Lanka) 21—11, 21—10, 21—7.

Golf

Sleeping partner awakes in firm of Golden Bear

From John Ballantine
Monterey, Feb 7

"Watch out, the big bear is going to get you" is the traditional warning by American mothers to naughty children. But here at Pebble Beach on the final round of the forty-first Bing Crosby national pro-am tournament under rainy skies the threat applied to Craig Stadler and two other leaders who stood in the path of Jack Nicklaus winning his first tournament since he took the United States Open and PGA championships in 1980.

Like the stockbroking firm of Merrill Lynch that capitalized on their slightly offensive nickname, "The Thundering Herd", Nicklaus now uses his nickname of "The Golden Bear" as a business tag.

He looked likely to surge into the lead in the third round when he began at Pebble Beach with two birdies, chipping in from 10 yards and then pitching to 18in. But his large gallery, made up of a vast proportion of the 32,700 crowd whose cars, according to marshals, were "backed up from Salinas to Pacific Grove", had no more chances to cheer.

The putts just would not drop. But can that happen on two successive days, asked his admirers who, after Nicklaus's dramatic final 64 at San Diego last week, which just failed to catch Johnny Miller, clearly were expecting a frustrated "bear" to charge again, this time, they hoped, to an outright victory.

After Nicklaus's 64 my little nephew in Los Angeles asked plaintively "If Nicklaus can finish like that, why doesn't he start that way?" It is true that the sleeping giant in Nicklaus does not seem to stir until the situation absolutely demands it and the truth of the matter may be found in his own description of that finish. "Scoring like that, finishing like that with a great eagle, even though I didn't catch Johnny, is the height of enjoyment for me."

Miller is down the field here on 213 with Watson on 214. Bruce Lietzke slumped with a 79 at Spyglass which puts into perspective Nick Faldo's 73 there, which failed to qualify by a single stroke. But Faldo automatically qualifies for this week's Hawaiian open. Peter Oosterhuis missed the "cut" by two strokes and will not play in Honolulu but restart again in the Los Angeles Open in a fortnight.

Stadler's card read: 4, 4, 3, 4, 4, 3, 2, 4, 4—32; 4, 3, 4, 4, 4, 3, 2, 4, 4—32. He had six birdies and an eagle three at the 522-yard sixth at Cypress where he hit a three-wood to 12ft and holed the putt.

THIRD ROUND: 206, C Stadler 71, 71, 64; 208, J Simons 71, 66, 71; 209, H Sutton 70, 67, 72; 210, J Nicklaus 69, 70, 71; B Wadkins 71, 68, 71; 211, J Inman 73, 69, 69; S Simpson 69, 73, 69; D Stockton 71, 70, 70; C Beck 69, 73, 69; 212, F Fezler 66, 75, 71; G Littler 70, 71, 71; 213, R Caldwell 73, 67, 73; G Burns 67, 69, 77; J Miller 71, 71, 71; J Mitchell 70, 72, 71. Foreign scores: 217, J Lister (NZ) 74, 71, 72; 217, D Graham (Australia) 75, 71, 71; 217, T Ozaki (Japan) 70, 74, 73; 218, B Devlin (Australia) 71, 74, 73; 220, N Faldo (GB) 75, 72, 73; 221, P Oosterhuis (GB) 76, 68, 77.

Mrs Robertson poised for romantic recall

After a 10-year gap Belle Robertson, the 45-year-old Scot, seems likely to be recalled to the Britain and Ireland Curtis Cup women's team against the United States in August. Mrs Robertson, who won the British women's championship last summer after being runner-up three times in the previous 22 years, was yesterday named in a select training squad of nine to play in the Spanish women's championship in Majorca from March 3 to 7.

W Aitken (Old Ranfurly), J Connachan (Royal Musselburgh), C Hourihane (Woodbrook), M McKenna (Donabate), M Madill (Portstewart), Mrs B Robertson (Dunaverty), J Soulsby (Prudhoe), Mrs V Thomas (Panhardy), P Wright (Aboyne).

Jagger wins play-off

Lagos, Feb 7.—David Jagger defeated his fellow Briton, Ian Woosnam, at the second play-off hole to win the Nigerian open golf championship at the Ikoyi Club here today.

LEADING FINAL SCORES (British unless stated): 274: I Woosnam, 67, 71, 68, 68; D Jagger, 71, 69, 66, 68. 275: D Jones, 67, 75, 68, 65. 279: J Morgan, 69, 71, 68, 71; S Martin, 70, 68, 70, 71. 280: M Gregson, 69, 70, 71, 70. 281: A Udulmon (Nigeria), 71, 69, 74, 71; G Brand, 72, 69, 72, 68; P Tupling, 68, 72, 69, 72; W Longmuir, 68, 72, 69, 74. 282: E Murray, 68, 72, 71, 71. Other scores (British unless stated): 283: P Elson, 73, 72, 69, 69; P Cowen, 72, 69, 73, 69; T Horton, 69, 70, 71, 73. 284: A Charnley, 73, 72, 69, 70. 287: J Higgins, 69, 73, 74, 71. 288: M Steadman, 73, 75, 71, 69. 289: A Brooks, 76, 72, 69, 72; J Hay, 70, 70, 75, 74. 291: C Mandesley, 72, 74, 76, 69; A O'Connor (Ireland), 74, 75, 69, 72; M Inglish, 72, 73, 71, 76. 292: P Dawson, 76, 71, 73, 72. 297: D Barton (Ireland), 73, 73, 76, 75.—Reuter.

Rugby League

Featherstone let chance of surprise win slip away

By Keith Macklin

For the second time in four days, Leigh snatched a dramatic last gasp victory to maintain their pursuit of Widnes. However, Widnes triumphed 16-5 against hapless Whitehaven in Cumbria, and Hull won a thrilling game at Wakefield, so the championship battle remains finely balanced.

Featherstone Rovers led 7-5 at half-time against Leigh and seemed in a strong position to win after five successive defeats when their strong-running second row forward Hobbs, scored a try in the 67th minute. In the last minute Bilsbury ran over for the winning touchdown for Leigh, and the victory was clinched by the kicking of Woods, who landed five goals against the three scored by Quinn for Featherstone.

At Wakefield, Hull had an equally tough fight against Trinity before winning 14-10. Wakefield staged a pulsating late rally and Hull had to hang on desperately to win. Prendiville and Dean got the Hull tries with Crooks kicking three goals and Lloyd one. Trinity's tries came from Walters and Kelly, Lyons landing two goals.

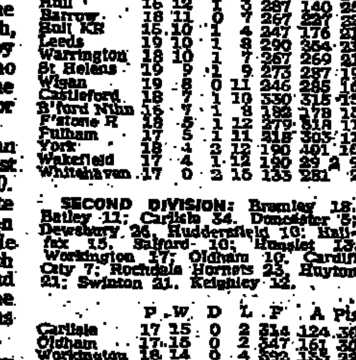
The only other side with any real pretensions to a challenge for the title, Hull Kingston Rovers, maintained their flickering outside chance by beating Bradford Northern 15-10. Hartley, Fairbairn and Hogan got the Rovers' tries with goals from Fairbairn (2) and two dropped goals from Harkin. Hanley and Whiteman scored for Bradford, Hanley kicking two goals.

Wigan signed the Great Britain under-24 centre, David Stephenson, from Salford for £60,000, but did not rush him into the team which beat Castleford 17—8.

FIRST DIVISION: Featherstone Rovers 12pts, Leigh 16; Fulham 5, Barrow 18; Hull Kingston Rovers 15, Bradford Northern 10; St Helens 6, Leeds 18; Wakefield Trinity 10, Hull 14; Warrington 18, York 9; Wigan 17, Castleford 8; Whitehaven 5, Widnes 16.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Widnes	22	18	1	3	437	231	37
Leigh	19	15	1	3	348	227	31
Hull	16	12	1	3	287	140	25
Barrow	18	11	0	7	257	227	22
Hull KR	15	10	1	4	247	176	21
Leeds	19	10	1	8	290	354	21
Warrington	18	10	1	7	267	269	21
St Helens	19	9	1	9	273	287	19
Wigan	19	8	0	11	245	285	16
Castleford	18	7	1	10	330	315	15
B'ford Nthn	16	7	1	8	182	178	15
F'stone R	18	5	1	12	279	318	11
Fulham	17	5	1	11	218	303	11
York	18	4	2	12	190	401	10
Wakefield	17	4	1	12	190	292	9
Whitehaven	17	0	2	15	135	281	2

SECOND DIVISION: Bramley 18, Batley 11; Carlisle 34, Doncaster 5; Dewsbury 26, Huddersfield 10; Halifax 15, Salford 10; Hunslet 13, Workington 17; Oldham 10, Cardiff City 7; Rochdale Hornets 23, Huyton 21; Swinton 21, Keighley 12.



	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	17	15	0	2	314	124	30
Oldham	17	15	0	2	347	161	30
Workington	18	14	0	4	392	155	28
Halifax	16	12	0	4	340	163	24
Keighley	19	11	0	8	309	228	22
Salford	18	10	0	8	371	313	20
Hunslet	17	10	0	7	270	262	20
Cardiff	16	10	0	6	276	284	20
Swinton	17	9	0	8	240	180	18
Huddersfield	19	7	1	11	195	299	15
Rochdale	17	7	0	10	170	230	14
Bramley	20	7	0	13	217	315	14
Dewsbury	18	7	0	11	163	254	14
Batley	19	6	0	13	219	335	12
Blackpool	17	4	0	13	159	268	8
Doncaster	17	0	1	16	179	413	1
Huyton	14	0	0	14	112	314	0

Another setback leaves Fulham with uphill task

By John Clemison

Fulham 5 Barrow 18

Fulham's makeshift side are ... Yesterday saw the continuance of incidents that began on Saturday when clashes of blades ruined the exercise. Sadly Oxford's stroke Conington strained his back — an oar went into it and a lateral twist from another collision left him incapacitated.

But this Oxford samurai took his place again yesterday, only to end in pain when the coxswains — no less than Oxford's Sue Brown and London's Ellison — contested yet another martial exercise with oars. Five minutes later Oxford ended up almost a length ahead, after several clashes and Conington grey with pain.

Oxford then recruited London University's junior international Reimbold, who collapsed three weeks ago with acute angina; resettled their crew and only pouncing out when ever Fulham slipped.

Barrow scored two spectacular tries before the break, both of them made by Flynn and touched down first by Mason and then by Tickle. Ball added the goal points each time. After the break Barrow went further ahead with a dropped goal by Cairns and Moore's try, Ball kicking the goal and adding a penalty goal shortly afterwards. Fulham's only reply was a penalty goal in the first half by Diamond and a try in injury time by M'Sarki.

Liverpool look awesome as the title race gains pace but Southampton cling on to their newly-conquered peak

Manner of Tottenham victory is bound to dismay West Brom

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

The championship picture changes with the speed of a slide show. The fortunes of Ipswich Town and Liverpool offer a neat illustration. Two weeks ago Ipswich extended their run of success to nine wins, a club record, and with a pocketful of games in hand were threatening to run away with the title that eluded them last season. They have since been sucked into a black hole.

The absence of one centre half is serious enough but they have lost both Butcher and Osman. Bobby Robson, their manager, revealed on Saturday that Butcher may not even play again this season. Not only has he broken his nose and severed an artery but he has also ruptured blood vessels. He was to undergo an operation on Friday night but, having lost nine pints of blood, was considered too weak.

Without him and Osman, Ipswich's confidence is going and their rhythm has gone. The problem has been exacerbated because, on their way down, the Uefa Cup holders have had the misfortune to bump three times into the holders of the European Cup, Liverpool, who are on their way up. Mr Robson sees Liverpool as the clear favourites now, although they are only third.

Yet at Christmas they were twelfth and Bob Paisley, in reference to the Manager of the Month award sponsored by a whisky firm, commented that he expected to receive the "no bell's" prize. But after leading them to nine victories in 10 games this year, he was nominated for a record sixteenth time on Saturday. Mr Paisley suggested that although the loss of key men ruined their hopes last season, the progress of his three newcomers—Grobbelaar, Whelan and Rush—has improved their chances this season.

Souness, now captain in place of the injured Thompson, feels that they are only two-thirds of the way back. Still involved in four tournaments, Liverpool look awesome even now and Mr Robson offered the thought, painful though it may be for the opposition, that the present side could "continue to steam roller on for another three or four years".

Southampton continued to cling on to their newly conquered peak ahead of Manchester United, who have been without one of their centre halves either, Buchan or McQueen, since September. But Moran has proved such an able deputy that they may yet offer the strongest challenge to Liverpool in the months ahead.

Moran scored twice and Coppell once in the decisive victory over the reigning champions, Aston Villa, and Robson added another, his first at Old Trafford. Buchan regained his place but not the captaincy, a position now filled by Wilkins. United may cut their huge playing staff by two if the intended deals involving McIlroy and Nicholl to Stoke City and Sunderland respectively, go through.

The staff at Wolverhampton Wanderers could be wondering about their own future. Under the guidance of their new manager, Ian Greaves, they were crushed at White Hart Lane, Villa helping himself to three of Tottenham Hotspur's six. News of that impressive victory will scarcely have heartened West Bromwich Albion. They are Tottenham's next visitors in the second leg of the League Cup semi-final on Wednesday.

Brighton were the only other convincing winners in the first division, taking a three-goal lead over Everton before Heath scored his first for his new club near the end. Arsenal, the most ineffective of Gunners, figured in yet another goalless draw but kept in touch with the leaders. So did Swansea City. Leighton James's penalty was decisive at Notts County, whose crowd was only 70 above five figures.

That was only 850 more than those who saw Bristol City. Forced to field the youngest team in their history after the departure of the Ashton Gate Eight, they drew against Fulham.



One miss by Ball brings a taunt from Bond; another miss receives more welcome appreciation from Southampton's manager Lawrie McMenemy in celebration

Armstrong scourge of Manchester

By Vince Wright
Southampton 2 Manchester C 1

Southampton's early FA Cup exit has stiffened their resolve to win the League title for the first time. They came a little nearer their objective on Saturday by beating one of their main challengers, Manchester City—a result which keeps them on top of the first division.

Since Leicester City surprised them in the third round there has been a more urgent spring in Southampton's stride. They are formidable opposition in the cramped surroundings of the Dell and like Aston Villa last season may find that not being involved in other competitions works to their advantage.

David Armstrong, Southampton's shrewd midfield signing from Middlesbrough, was again the scourge of Manchester. Two months ago he scored a last-minute winner which enabled Southampton to defeat United 3—2; on Saturday he restored Southampton's lead less than 30 seconds after City had equalized and the task of drawing level for the second time was beyond the gallant visitors.

Armstrong has his critics and there are indeed occasions when his concentration appears to wander. However, no one can deny that he has a habit of scoring important goals. Of the 10 he has managed this season five have come in matches against other teams with championship aspirations.

An exciting second half compensated for a drab, disjointed first when players ran aimlessly, passed inaccurately and shot wildly. Amid the helter-skelter of the opening phase Francis was one of the few who used the ball sensibly. His speed and mobility [illegible] and if his attacking partner, Reeves, had not wasted two good chances City might have improved on their already impressive away form.

Keegan was less influential than usual and more petulant. It is true that he was sometimes treated roughly by Bond and Caton but his over reaction to fouls will not be so easily tolerated when he represents England in Spain this summer. Kith Keegan relatively subdued it was left to Baker, Channon and Armstrong to make Southampton's most telling contributions.

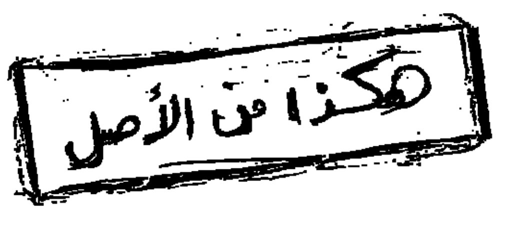
Corrigan was slightly at fault when Baker gave Southampton the lead after 60 minutes but the midfield man deserved some reward for his tireless foraging. City, who were best served by Francis, Power and Caton, equalized 13 minutes later through their full back McDonald who outjumped Katalinic at the near post to head home Ryan's corner.

Before City had time to savour their goal a rare mix-up in their defence led to Corrigan saving at full stretch from Channon and Armstrong put away the rebound to give Southampton the victory they just about earned. Neither side though looked championship material.

SOUTHAMPTON: I Katalinic; I Golac, D Agboola, G Baker, C Nicholl, M Waldron, K Keegan, M Channon, T Hebberd, D Armstrong, A Ball.

MANCHESTER CITY: J Corrigan; R Ranson, R McDonald, J Ryan, K Bond, T Caton, S Kinsey, K Reeves, T Francis, T Hutchison (sub, A Hareide), P Power.

Referee: M Bodenham (Brighton).



Goalkeeper beaten

The Bishop Auckland goalkeeper Paul Owers was beaten senseless by spectators after a bad-tempered FA Trophy tie at Chorley. He was kicked repeatedly by three youths after being felled by a blow from behind and was subsequently carried by police to his team's dressing-room. He was later taken to hospital.

United reluctant to succeed champions

By Richard Williams
Manchester U 4 Aston Villa 1

The Manchester United manager's decision to allow Wilkins to retain the team captaincy for Saturday's match, despite Buchan's return, might be seen as having repercussions beyond the fortune of the individual club. Ron Atkinson later played down the significance of his choice, suggesting only that Wilkins's recent fine form had been a factor.

But those who have studied the player, know that responsibility is not only no burden to him, it fires his imagination. If Wilkins hangs on to the United captaincy, he will become the natural candidate for the leadership of England in the post-Keegan era.

It was his diligence and technique which brought United back into this game. Heirs potential, but hardly presumptive, they made heavy weather in the first half of matching the champions.

In spite of almost unlimited possession, they fell behind in the 21st minute when Geddis began and ended a classic break. He passed from the centre circle to Blair on the right, outsprinted Moran to accept the return on the edge of the area and shot confidently past Bailey.

Old Trafford's patience with United's shapelessness was wearing thin when, in the minute before the interval, Wilkins twice destroyed the left side of Villa's defence with short passes of such guileful underspin that even the willing Duxbury, whose response they invited, put no trust in their trajectory. The second pass, which pulled up a few inches short of the goal line, was knocked away for a corner. Taken quickly by Robson and neatly flicked on by Birtles, it was headed home by Moran.

Geddis and Cowans missed reasonable chances to put Villa back into the lead early in the second half, but as Blair and Bullivant both faded, making the absence of Morley even more obvious, so United's momentum increased. Duxbury withdrew from the right, allowing Coppell, fluttering ineffective in the first half, to link with Stapleton and Gidman; space was made on the left, inviting Robson to steal forward.

In the 62nd minute the new alignment was successful when Stapleton teed the ball up for Coppell, whose long cross was headed in by Robson. Four minutes later Robson sent Stapleton to the line on the left, his cross was returned by Duxbury with a shot which thudded off Rimmer's chest, and Coppell pounced.

United now relaxed and celebrated with a fourth goal 12 minutes from time, Moran crashing through four demoralized defenders to head his second

MANCHESTER UNITED: G Bailey; J Gidman, A Albiston, R Wilkins, K Moran, M Buchan, B Robson, G Birtles (sub S McGarvey), F Stapleton, M Duxbury, S Coppell.

ASTON VILLA: J Rimmer; K Swain, C Gibson, A Evans, A Blair, D Mortimer, D Bremner, D Geddis, P Withe, G Cowans, T Bullivant.

Referee: K Redfern (Whitley Bay).

Hare catches Yorkshire terrier at finishing post

By Tom German
Sheffield Wed 3 Luton Town 3

The hare the rest of the second division is chasing, and will have difficulty overhauling, felt the breath of a pack of Yorkshire terriers on its neck at Hillsborough. Luton, apparently cornered, squirmed away to equalize in the time added on for stoppages, leaving Sheffield Wednesday, and perhaps Megson in particular, to reproach themselves for not making the kill.

How much Megson's dismissal for a second caution in the last few minutes gave Luton fresh impetus can be no more than conjecture, but a side seemingly beaten detected a chance and responded to take it admirably.

It was the hardest match Luton had all season, as they readily conceded. Thoughtfully constructed moves early in the match gave an indication of their strength and style, and laid a base to build on as White whisked Moss's pass between the two central defenders and shot beneath Bolder's dive. But as Wednesday harnessed their own efforts and considerable energies, Luton harnessed their own efforts and considerable enrgies. Luton intruded less and less and were scarcely seen at all in the second half.

Wednesday's manager, Jack Charlton, could not recall such collective commitment from his side. They were aided, it is true, by a couple of glaring defensive mistakes, but under the pressure the Yorkshiremen were applying there was always that possibility.

Stephens was the culprit on both occasions, first with an injudicious pass towards his goalkeeper, which Bannister intercepted and Pearson touched in to enable Wednesday to end the first half on equal terms, then with a fluffed attempt at clearing which gave Bannister room to put Wednesday 3—2 up with barely five minutes of the match left.

Wednesday are a young side; their average age, if the winger Ian Mellor is omitted from the calculation, is around 20, so there is time enough to nudge a wider spread of skills to the determination they showed on Saturday. They overcame the setback of a controversial penalty, scored by Moss, at the outset of the second half, Sterland being judged to have brought down the winger when there was no apparent threat. Pearson neutralized Luton's advantage with a splendid header and from that point Luton's back was to the wall.

Bannister's goal appeared to give Wednesday the reward they had earned but then Megson was sent to the dressing room for a needless confrontation with Horton. Luton stirred themselves and Stein, barassed by two opponents, marvellously made room for a telling shot—only the second Luton had had throughout the second period. The hare had found sanctuary where there had seemed only open country.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY: R Bolder; M Sterland, C Williamson, Peter Shirtliff, M Pickering, M Smith, G Megson, Paul Shirtliff, G Bannister, J Pearson, I Mellor (sub, G Owen).

LUTON TOWN: A Judge; K Stephens, M Aylewood, B Horton, C Goodyear, M Donaghy, R Hill, B Stein, S White, P Fuccillo, D Moss (sub, R Antic).

Referee: J Lovatt (Crewe).

Few bear witness to Southend's progress

By Nicholas Harling
Southend U 1 Carlisle U 1

For a team that is currently operating with its only 12 fit full-time professionals, Southend United are making such remarkable progress that the second division beckons them for the first time.

The pity is that the Essex club are not attracting the crowds they deserve, mainly because they appear to have alienated themselves from part of the local populace by raising prices by 30 per cent. So it was on Saturday that the traffic jams on the A13 heading into town was bound not for Roots Hall to watch a match featuring another of the promotion aspirants, but for the shops and seafront amusement arcades.

The meagre few who did gravitate towards the ground saw a match which should have increased Southend's chances of moving up. The result enabled them to extend their unbeaten sequence to nine matches, it is true, but they must be bemoaning the fact they did not do more to exploit Carlisle's habitual early vulnerability.

Bob Stokoe, Carlisle's manager, has become so accustomed by now to his team's tendency to be slow starters that he cannot have been surprised by the pattern of the first half when the spontaneity of Southend's one touch play caught the eye. It usually featured some combination of Pennyfather, Nelson, Otulakowski and Greaves.

Greaves, it was, who had already brought one alert save from Swinburne, when Southend went ahead in the ninth minute. Pennyfather accepted Stead's throw, and reached the bye-line to cross for Mercer to volley in

A wicked bobble prevented Pennyfather from testing Swinburne again before Nelson was denied first by Haigh's tackle and then the goalkeeper's fumbling save. Carlisle, served usefully from midfield by the ageless Robson, had made little impression until their impressive central defender Houghton's downward not brought Keely to a full-length save. Having come close with one header, Carlisle then equalized with another, Lee's effort from Crabbe's cross brushing Keely's fingers before Bannon ran in to make sure.

By then Mr Stokoe's interval admonishment was taking effect for Carlisle, and as is their wont, went on to have the better of the second half in spite of taking off Staniforth, the forward David Smith, Southend's manager admitted he was most glad to see the back of.

SOUTHEND UNITED: J Keely; M Stead, S Yates, G Pennyfather, A [illegible], D [illegible], [illegible] (sub, A Hadley), T Gray, D Greaves, K Mercer, A Otulakowski.

CARLISLE UNITED: T Swinburne; P Haigh, D Rushbury, K Houghton, I Ashurst, I Crabbe, R Coughlin, R Robson, P Bannon, R Lee, G Staniforth (sub, P Beardsley).

Referee: A Gunn (Burgess Hill).

A Roberts lecture on the philosophy of survival

By Paul Newman
Colchester Utd 5 Sheffield Utd 2

If the game is to survive in its present form in the lower reaches of the Football League it will surely be through the philosophy of clubs like Colchester United and of men such as their manager, Bobby Roberts. The fourth division side are the leading scorers in the League and on schedule for the rare achievement of 100 goals in a season, but even that is not enough for them.

Last week, in order to stimulate an attack in which Allinson has hit 20 goals this season, Bremner 13 and McDonough 12, Colchester paid around £25,000 to Cambridge United for another striker, Lyons. Perhaps it was Mr Roberts' way of dealing with the previous week's disaster or failing to score in a match at Torquay United.

The mere fact that Colchester are in a position to spend such sums is an achievement in itself, for Saturday's crowd of 3,194 bettered the previous highest League gate of the season at Layer Road by more than 1,300. The club are still reeling, too, from the refusal of planning permission for a new stadium in another part of the town—a move the club feel necessary to secure their long-term future.

On Saturday's evidence the short-term prospects look rosy enough. The ease with which Colchester sliced through their promotion rivals' defence—until then one of the tightest in the League—gave backing to their chairman Maurice Cadman's matter-of-fact statement before the match that "in the very near future we will see Colchester United playing in the second division".

Lyons took just four minutes to repay some of his transfer fee, heading home Allinson's corner with the help of a couple of deflections, and two more goals came in the next six minutes. Allinson, Bremner and McDonough, perhaps in response to the newcomer's challenge, eventually got four between them.

Colchester were helped, however, by bizarre goalkeeping from Waugh, who twice groped at thin air from free kicks he should have saved. Although never matching Colchester for effectiveness and penetration, Sheffield had as much of the game. The

Edwards and Kenworthy were Sheffield's scorers in a match which lived up to the hopes of Mr Roberts. Writing in the programme, he expressed the desire that the BBC's "Match of the Day" cameras would see "a game which will show the fourth division in a good light, hopefully with plenty of goals, trusting, of course, that we manage to get just slightly more than our visitors". The manager's wish, it seems, is his players' command.

COLCHESTER UNITED: M Walker; M Cook, D Longhorn (sub, P Coleman), J Lyons, S Wignall, S Wright, A Adcock, K Bremner, R Osborne, R McDonough, I Allinson.

SHEFFIELD UNITED: K Waugh; P Richardson (sub, S Charles), P Garner, J Matthews, S Houston, A Kenworthy, S Neville, T Trusson, K Edwards, R Hatton, J King.

Referee: C B White (Harrow).

Watford is the place for one-way traffic

By Paul Harrison
Watford 1, Chelsea 0

Graham Taylor, the Watford manager, has about him these days the unmistakable aura of success. A good cup run has been allied to a promotion push towards the first division and at Vicarage Road on Saturday his latest gamble paid off.

He brought Rostron, normally a winger, in as a full back. "The best form of defending is to go at them," said Mr Taylor, a former full back, afterwards. The result was that the effective Rostron was named as Watford's man of the match, with the 12 bottles of wine that went with that honour, and the team picked up three more points at a time when most of their rivals, including Chelsea, were dropping them.

Mr Taylor had prepared the way by playing Rostron at left back in the reserves the previous Wednesday and the player had the experience of an outing in that position for Sunderland to fall back on.

Watford is a great place for one-way traffic and Chelsea could find no way out of the restrictions placed on them. That Watford's clear superiority—reflected accurately in a corner count of 18—2—resulted in just one goal could be put down to a combination of factors—ill luck, ill finishing and some good and brave goalkeeping by Francis.

Watford hit the post, Armstrong's shot rebounding straight back into Francis's arms, and had a "goal" disallowed for a foul on the goalkeeper by Armstrong before they won a sixty-ninth minute penalty. Referee Civil clearly believed that Jenkins had been pushed by Droy as they went up for a cross together—and had little hesitation in pointing to the spot. Blissett, too, had little hesitation in scoring. Droy, the brooding godfather in the heart of the Chelsea defence, seemed hard done by.

Certainly with the penalty justice was done to the scoreline. With Rostron and Taylor ploughing furrows around the corner flags with a succession of kicks, and Jenkins, Blissett, Armstrong and Barnes all encamped more-or-less permanently in the Chelsea penalty area, the match was all too one-sided. Chelsea had little to offer but Walker's pace and too often that did not encompass the ball.

Watford's best league crowd of the season—17,101—was swelled by about 3,000 of the country's least-wanted supporters. The police decided it was better to let the visiting fans into the ground than risk them rioting in the streets.

WATFORD: S Sherwood; P Rice, W Rostron, L Taylor, S Terry, I Bolton, L Blissett, G Armstrong, R Jenkins, J Lohman, J Barnes.

CHELSEA: S Francis; G Locke, C Hutchings, M Nutton, M Droy, G Pates, A Mayes, J Bumstead (sub, M Fillery), C Lee, C Walker, P Rhoades-Brown.

Referee: D Civil (Birmingham).

Football Association officials will study a report from Watford before deciding what to do about the ban on Chelsea supporters at away games. It seems certain that Watford will not be punished for admitting them, but the FA may be forced to review the ban, which supporters have beaten at every away game so far.

Swimming

Miss Croft shows the stuff of champions

From Athole Still
Paris, Feb 7

June Croft (Williams Wasps) crowned a weekend of glorious personal triumph at the 23 Nation Arena meeting in Paris by winning a fourth gold medal from four swims in what was probably the most outstanding achievement ever by a British swimmer abroad at a meeting of this nature.

Yesterday it was the 100 metres event which fell to her immaculate front crawl technique (as had the 50, 200 and 400 on the two previous days).

Although small at 5ft 7in and lighter at 130lb (both very important factors in driving speedily from the block) than most of her rivals, the 18-year-old Wigan girl led from the dive and was never thereafter in any danger of losing. She had a one metre lead at 50 metres (26.76sec) and was, remarkably for this level of competition, a full body length in front of the American Mary Wayte in second place, when still some 10 metres from the final wall.

The race was won, but Miss Croft, still stroking beautifully, appeared to ease up and seemed thereby to have cost herself yet another British and Commonwealth record. "No", she confessed, as she picked up her track suit, immediately afterwards, "I had nothing left down the last length".

Having set nine British and five Commonwealth records (one equalled) in the past four weeks, Miss Croft has nothing to be disappointed about. A further improvement on her speciality 100 metres, which would place her among the elite three East Germans and one American, who have beaten 55 seconds for this distance will inevitably result from a rest from competition over the next two months as she prepares for the National short course championships in Nuneaton.

After that Miss Croft can look forward to the world championships in Equador in August and the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane in October, for her startling improvement recently has resulted from an increased workload being imposed on an excellent technique, which as today's experience shows, clearly does not disintegrate when under stress. That's the stuff of real champions.

Adrian Moorhouse (Leeds Central) had been expected to win the 100 metres breaststroke but his hell-for-leather win-it-from-the-front strategy was frustrated at the start. He emerged from that slightly behind both John Moffet (US) and Alexander Sidorenko of the Soviet Union, and in the end had to be content with third place.

Stephen Poulter (Williams Wasps) won a second bronze medal in the 200 metres butterfly with a time of (2 min 02.79 sec), which helped boost the medal haul for the 16-strong Yorkshire Bank squad to six gold, and three bronzes.

MEN: 100 Metres breaststroke: 1, J Moffet (US) 1:02.81; 3, A Moorhouse (GB) 1:03.86. 100m freestyle: 1, R Stahl (US) 51.74. 200m backstroke: 1, F Delcourt (France) 1:58.97; 8, Allan Jameson (GB) 2:07.02. 200m butterfly: 1, H Yalena (US) 2:00.15; 3, S Poulter (GB). 200m backstroke: 1, F Delcourt (France) 1:58.97; 8, A Jameson (GB) 2:07.22.

WOMEN: 100 metres freestyle: 1, J Croft (GB) 55.46. 100m breaststroke: 1, S Horner (EG) 1:10.05; 4, S Brownsdon (GB) 1:11.64. 200m backstroke: 1, L Gorichalova (USSR) 2:12.30; 5, J Adams (GB) 2:17.46. 200m butterfly: 1, P Gavin (US) 2:14.39; 5, A Osgerby (GB) 2:16.84; 6, I Ross (GB) 2:17.08; 8, J Osherby (GB) 2:20.19. 200m backstroke: 1, L Gorishakova (USSR) 2:12.50; 5, J Admans (GB) 2:17.46.

Hockey

Slough trudge through mud into the last 16

By Sydney Friskin
Slough 5 Hendon 0

On a day when even all-weather surfaces were under water, Slough managed to use their grass pitch yesterday to play Hendon in the first round of the club championship, sponsored by Rank Xerox. The result put the holders among the last 16, and the draw for the second round will be announced tomorrow.

The ground was badly churned up at the end of a match which Slough always seemed likely to win despite the conditions.

For Hendon, Banks had a fine game in goal and Lowen as full back made a number of clearances off the line to avert what might have been a landslide victory for Slough.

When Slough did score their first goal, in the fifteenth minute, it was only on their second visit to the Hendon circle, a neat cross pass by Khehar enabling Sini to put a quick shot past Banks.

Just before half-time Banks was penalized for a sequence of offences committed under heavy pressure and Slough were awarded a penalty stroke which Laly converted. The first half ended with Hendon coming more into the game.

But Hendon's hopes faded early in the second half, when Ken Partington put the finishing touch to a move begun by Khehar from the right. Khehar scored the fourth goal off a pass from Laly, who dug the ball out of the ground, and Sini hit the fifth.

SLOUGH: I Taylor; P Barber, S Partington (sub, M Parris), M Flora, B Dayed, J Allen, B Flora, S Khehar, R Sini, R Laly, K Dhak (sub, E Partington).

HENDON: D Banks; G Taylor, J Lowen, P Giles, D Wallace, G Allen, P Bowden, M White, A Gill (sub, D Wilson), J Pritchard, I Turnbull.

Umpires: T S Brown, A D Budd (southern counties).

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: first round: Amersham 0, Southgate 4; Bishop's Stortford 1, Reading 0; Bluecharts 2, York 0; Bournville 0, Preston 3; Durham University 1, Neston 3; Tarnham 5, British Steel 0; Ford's 0, Derby 3, Maidenhead 4; Portsmouth and Southsea 0, Nottingham 5; Rover Engineers 1; Olton and West Warwick 4; Cambridge City 1; Slough 5, Hendon 0.

Leading goalscorers

FIRST DIVISION: K Keegan (Southampton) 19; I Rush (Liverpool) 17; C Regis (West Brom) 18; T McDermott (Liverpool) 15; D Cross (West Ham) 15; T (Liverpool) 17; K Dalglish (Liverpool); T Francis (Man City) 2 for Forest 15; J Wark (Ipswich) 15.

SECOND DIVISION: S Stainrod (QPR) 17; S White (Luton) 19; T Aylott (Barnsley) 15; S Garner (Blackburn) 15; G Bannister (Sheff Wed) 13.

THIRD DIVISION: K Cassells (Oxford) 20; G Davies (Fulham) 17; A Kellow (Exeter) 18; N Chatterton (Millwall) 12; Thomas (Oxford) 12; D Coney (Fulham) 11; D White (Gillingham) 11.

FOURTH DIVISION: C Madden (Bury) 21; I Allinson (Colchester) 20; R Campbell (Bradford C) 16; R Cooke (Peterborough) 15; S Johnson (Bury) 15; Walwyn (York) 14.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FOURTH DIVISION: Port Vale v Wigan Athletic.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Dagenham v Dartford.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland: Nuneaton v Cheltenham. Southern: Salisbury v Dorchester.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Manchester United v Huddersfield.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Bristol City v Watford (2.0); Hereford v Chelsea.

LONDON SENIOR CUP: First round: Farnborough v St Albans, Dulwich Hamlet v Woking.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Harrow Borough v Slough.

Results and tables

126.3m	Kleinwort Ben	232	+5	12.9
817.6m	Lloyds Bank	460	-6	26.0
97.3m	Mercury Secs	220	-5	10.0
558.4m	Midland	338	-8	31.4
24.8m	Minster Assets	72½	-2½	5.5
421.6m	Nat of Aust	164	+2	13.2
1,021.5m	Nat W'minster	430	-1	31.3
23.7m	Ottoman	£47½	-½	375
14.7m	Rea Bros	90	..	2.4
895.3m	Royal of Can	£10⅞	..	54.3
274.7m	Ryl Bk Scot Grp	122	-6	7.7
64.9m	Schroders	415	..	15.0
3,010,000	Seccombe Mar	215	+5	25.7
5,400,000	Smith St Aubyn	50	+15	6.4
606.4m	Standard Chart	702	+5	49.0
45.8m	Union Discount	458	-5	37.1
12.8m	Wintrust	152	+7	4.8

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

SECOND DIVISION: Bolton 2, Barnsley 1; Cambridge United 1, Newcastle 0; Cardiff 1, Rotherham 2; Charlton 2, Crystal Palace 1; Leicester 2, Derby 1; Norwich 4, Wrexham 0; Orient 0, Blackburn 0; Queens Park Rangers 1, Grimsby 0; Sheffield Wed 3, Luton 3; Shrewsbury 2, Oldham 1; Watford 1, Chelsea 0.

THIRD DIVISION: Brentford 2, Portsmouth 2; Bristol City 0, Fulham 0; Burnley 4, Bristol Rovers 0; Chester 0, Gillingham 0; Chesterfield 1, Walsall 0; Exeter 2, Doncaster 1; Lincoln 2, Plymouth 0; Oxford United 1, Newport 1; Preston North End 0, Swindon 0; Reading 4, Millwall 0; Southend 1, Carlisle 1; Wimbledon 2, Huddersfield 0.

FOURTH DIVISION: Colchester 5, Sheffield United 2; Darlington 0, Bournemouth 1; Halifax 2, Aldershot 2; Hereford 1, Tranmere 1; Hull City 0, Northampton 1; Mansfield 1, Port Vale 3; Rochdale 1, Peterborough 1; Scunthorpe 0, Torquay 2; Stockport 2, Bury 1; Wigan Athletic 1, Hartlepool 1; York City 0, Bradford City 3.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Aberdeen 0, Morton 0; Dundee 1, Celtic 3; Hibernian 0, Dundee United 1; Partick Thistle 0, St Mirren 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	19	13	4	2	40	19	30
St Mirren	19	10	5	4	29	19	25
Rangers	18	8	7	3	29	22	23
Dundee Utd	17	8	4	5	27	15	20
Hibernian	21	6	8	7	21	17	20
Aberdeen	18	7	6	5	22	19	20
Morton	19	5	5	9	16	27	15
Partick	19	2	7	10	12	35	11
Dundee	20	5	1	14	29	45	11
Airdrie	17	3	5	9	22	40	11

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Ayr 2, Clydebank 1; Dumbarton 3, Falkirk 1; ...

SCOTTISH CUP—Third Round: Rangers 6, Albion Rovers 2; Kilmarnock 1, Montrose 0; Gala Fairydean 1, St Johnstone 2.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Boreham Wood 0, Tooting and Mitcham 1; Carshalton 1, Leytonstone and Ilford 3; Dulwich H 1, Hitchin 1; Hayes 1, Barking 1; Leatherhead 1, Billericay 1; Staines 3, Bromley 1; Walthamstow Avenue 3, Harrow Boro 1. Division One: Chesham 0, Bognor Regis 2; Kingstonian 1, Hertford 2; Lewes 1, Wokingham 3; Maidenhead United 1, Hornchurch 1; Metropolitan Police 2, Oxford City 0; Tilbury 0, Wembley 1; ...

European leagues

Cricket

No expense spared on first ever Test in Sri Lanka

From Richard Streeton
Colombo, Feb 7

Sri Lankan cricket officials are sparing nothing in terms of expense and effort to make certain their inaugural Test match against England on February 17 is a success. Something like £100,000 is being spent on new stands and facilities at the Colombo Oval Ground, with building work continuing night and day to increase the capacity to 20,000.

Sponsorship and a national appeal fund are helping to finance the project, which also includes improvements to the approach roads. Some unsightly mud and straw huts outside the ground are being demolished and new homes are being found for the 20 or so families who live there.

Sri Lankan cricket gained Test match status at last July's International Cricket Conference and by happy coincidence, 1982 marks the anniversary of two important developments in local cricket. British soldiers introduced the game to this island and the first club was formed 150 years ago. It was 100 years ago that I F W Bligh's 1882-83 side established what became a regular practice by playing a game in Colombo on the way to Australia.

Sri Lanka's captain for the Test match has already been chosen. He is Bandula Warnapura, a right-hand batsman, who led Sri Lanka in England last summer. After three-day and five-day trial matches, a provisional Test squad of 34 players was reduced to 23, with five medium-fast bowlers among those dropped.

Sri Lanka's bowling strength lies in their spinners. There is little doubt that the Test match pitch being prepared by a groundstaff that includes several women labourers, will undoubtedly be a slow turner. England's programme starts with a three-day game at Kandy on Tuesday against a Sri Lanka Cricket Board President's XI. Two one-day internationals of 45 overs will take place at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground, Colombo, next Saturday and Sunday, followed by the Test.

Preparations for Sri Lanka's cricket future, have included the construction of a second potential Test ground at Kandy which will be used for the first time on Tuesday. A former school playing field has been doubled in size by excavating part of an adjoining hillside and a pavilion and other stands have been constructed.

The President's XI will be led by Duleep Mendis, whose attractive batting was a feature of Sri Lanka's cricket in both the 1975 and 1979 World Cups, as well as the 1981 England tour. Mendis is the only member of the President's team expected to play in the Test match, but it includes two 19-year-old schoolboys in Arjuna Ranatunge and Sumithra Warnakulasuriya, whose batting is expected to make them famous test players in the years to come.

England have been resting this weekend and adjusting to the 95 degree heat and the humidity since they arrived from India on Saturday morning. It is far hotter here than anything the players have experienced for several weeks. Fletcher's intention is that everyone will get some cricket in the first three games, but that the strongest team on merit will be fielded for the Test. John Lever has a stomach upset, but is named for the opening game at Kandy.

PRESIDENT'S XI: D Mendis (Captain), S Wettimuny, R Jayasekera, R Madugalle, S Perera, A Ranatunge, S Warnakulasuriya, S Jeganathan, V John, R Ratnayake, R Wijesuriya. ENGLAND: K W R Fletcher (Captain), G A Gooch, G Cook, D I Gower, M W Gatting, C J Richards, G R Dilley, J E Emburey, D L Underwood, P J W Allott, J K Lever.

□ In the India v England Test averages, published on Saturday, the highest score for Yashpal Sharma in the India batting should have read 140 instead of 55 not out.

The Yorkshire sub-committee who are investigating friction between Boycott and Illingworth are to have a further talk with the team manager, after which they will complete their final report.

England's women fail to force the pace

Christchurch, Feb 7.— Australia, the favourites, retained the World Cup for women here today by holding off a spirited challenge from England in the final of the month-long competition. England won the toss and batted first, reaching 151 for five wickets in their 60 overs, before Australia scored the winning runs in the last over of their own innings.

Jan Southgate held the England innings together with 53, although the England batting was generally tentative. England's most experienced player, Rachel Heyhoe-Flint, aged 42, was guilty of not forcing the pace when England had wickets in hand, despite sharing an 87-run partnership with Southgate.

Australia, unbeaten in 12 qualifying games leading up to the final, made hard work of overhauling the modest total. There was some excellent work in the field by England and three of the seven Australian batsmen dismissed were run out.

Highlights of Australia's innings were the 37 scored by Jenny Jacobs before she was run out and a quickly compiled 24 not out by Marie Cornish.

ENGLAND

S Goatman, b Fullston	29
J Bollin, c and b Cornish	17
C Watmough, c Kennare, b Fullston	9
J Southgate, c Hill, b Tredrea	53
R Heyhoe-Flint, c Fullston, b Tredrea	29
G Hullah, not out	1
Extras (b 5, l-b 7, w 1)	13
Total (5 wickets, 60 overs)	151

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-42, 2-54, 3-83, 4-150, 5-151.
BOWLING: S. Tredrea, 12-2-36-2; D. Marten, 12-2-31-0; M. Cornish, 12-4-17-1; R. Thompson, 12-2-34-0; L. Fullston, 12-3-20-2.

AUSTRALIA

P Verco, c Goatman, b Starling	7
S Hill, c Goatman, b Starling	12
L Kennare, run out	4
R. Head, c Southgate, b Tedstone	32
S. Tredrea, c S. Hodges, b C. Hodges	25
J. Jacobs, run out	37
M. Cornish, not out	24
R. Thompson, run out	3
L. Fullston, not out	0
Extras (b 2, l-b 3, w 1, n-b 2)	8
Total (7 wickets, 59 overs)	152

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-22, 3-26, 4-82, 5-87, 6-134, 7-145.
BOWLING: J. Tedstone, 12-4-24-1; A. Sterling, 11-3-21-2; G. Hullah, 11-0-35-0; E. Bakewell, 12-3-26-0; C. Hodges, 12-1-33-1; C. Watmough, 1-0-5-0.

Skiing

The imperturbable Swede, Ingemar Stenmark, slashing down the giant slalom course at Schladming to win the gold medal.

Seeing justice for a Swede

From Dudley Doust
Schladming, Feb 7

Justice was done in the final event of the Alpine world ski championships today when the imperturbable Swede, Ingemar Stenmark, convincingly won the slalom gold medal with the fastest time in both runs down the hard, steepish course. The silver medal, not unexpectedly, went to the Yugoslav, Bojan Krizaj and the bronze to a new Swede, Bengt Fjaellberg.

Stenmark had come second in the giant slalom on Wednesday but he never put an edge wrong down the first run today to establish a .31 second lead over Krizaj who was being cheered on by what looked like half the population of his home village of Trizic, just over the border of Austria.

Yet all the Yugoslavs were not pulling for their little blond skier. "I hope Stenmark wins", said Peter Kunc, chairman of the Yugoslavian Alpine Commission. "He is the best and it would not be fair for him to be second twice."

It was a generous gesture of sportsmanship and after the second run, a thought faintly echoed by Krizaj himself. "I've searched for different ways to beat Ingemar", he said, "but he is much too strong. He is the greatest skier of the era."

Stenmark has had a troubled championship. First there was the assassination threat and then he lived in an hotel staked out by security men. Then he came second to Steve Mahre in that giant slalom event. But the Swede overpowered everyone today, perhaps intimidating even the American brothers.

Steve started eleventh on the first run and knowing he needed a perfect descent, he attacked with reckless vigour and came off the course. Surprisingly, he clambered back on to it and finished the race far down the order. The reason he finished was to phone tips up to his brother, Phil, near the starting hut.

Whatever news was relayed, Phil's run was little more than adequate and kept him only in distant touch, .68 seconds behind Stenmark and fifth for the second run. That ultimately left him too much to do and second time down he fairly leaped through the gates, like a salmon making upstream, and went off the course near the top.

Stenmark had by then sewed up the title, his fourth straight world slalom gold medal. As for Phil, who prior to the games had established himself as the best all-rounder in the world, he finished with no medals at all. "I feel sorry for Phil", Stenmark said later, "he should have won something. He has been skiing so well".

If the Swedes dominated the slalom, so did the Austrians the downhill for, on Saturday, they saved the nation's honour by winning the medal they most needed, the downhill gold.

It was Harti Weirather, who narrowly misses being German for he was born only six miles from the West German border. He was one of the favourites, although his countryman Franz Klammer had been making the publicity running. Klammer, however, was badly injured on the eve of the race and subsequently made a poor, though heroic showing and came seventh.

Weirather's run was just about faultless. "I didn't make any mistakes, good heavens, no", he said, though in German the comment sounds less dainty.

It was a terrifyingly icy course, very fast, and Weirather was noticeably nervous, yet by the time he passed that point where Klammer had crashed so spectacularly the day before, he was in command of his form. His time pushed the Italian, Conradin Cathomen into the silver medal and another Austrian, Erwin Resch, into third.

MEN'S SLALOM: 1, I Stenmark (Sweden), 1min 48.48sec; 2, B Krizaj (Yugoslavia), 1:48.90; 3, B Fjaellberg (Sweden), 1:49.32; 4, P de Chiesa (Italy), 1:49.37; 5, J Gaspoz (Switzerland), 1:49.51; 6, P Gros (Italy), 1:50.68. British placings: 16, K Bartelski, 1:57.49; 31, F Burton, 2:00.39; 36, R Duncan, 2:02.93.
MEDAL WINNERS: Men's slalom: 1, I Stenmark (Swe); 2, B Krizaj (Yug); 3, B F Jaellberg (Swe). Women's slalom: 1, E Hess (Swiz); 2, C Cooper (US); 3, D Zini (It). Men's giant slalom: 1, S Mahre (US); 2, Stenmark (SW); 3, B Strel (Yug). Women's giant slalom: 1, E Hess (Swiz); 2, C. Cooper (US); 3, U Konzett (Lei). Men's combined: 1, M Vion (Fr); 2, P Luescher (Swiz); 3, A Steiner (Aus). Women's combined: 1, E Hess (Swiz); 2, P Pelen (Fr); 3, C Cooper (US). Men's downhill: 1, H Weirather (Aus); 2, C Cathomen (Swiz); 3, E Resch (Aus). Women's downhill: 1, G Sorensen (Can); 2, C Nelson (US); 3, L Graham (Can).

Ice skating

Dancers make one proud to be British

By John Hennessy

Have Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, ice dance champions of Britain, Europe and the world, reached their peak? Betty Callaway, their trainer, and a charming fellow passenger on a flight from Lyons yesterday, replied "Good heavens, no". She seemed almost nonplussed that the question should even be asked.

But how much room is there for improvement when you have extracted 14 full marks of six from the judges during one championship, including eight out of nine for artistic impression, and from such as John Curry the comment that your original set pattern dance "is the most beautiful thing I have ever seen on ice".

The standards, Betty Callaway explains, are rising all the time. What was regarded even as exceptional in the days of Diane Towler and Bernard Ford, the last British holders of the world ice dance title in the 1960s, would be nowhere near adequate today. But we need have no fear. However real the threat posed by the Soviet Union, particularly the dynamic Natalya Bestemianova and her partner and the resurgent Irena Moiseyeva and hers, "Chris, particularly, is full of new ideas", their trainer assures us.

The last view of the British champions was of a run-through of their exhibition dance to a rumba rhythm of Saturday afternoon. It is another creation haunting beauty and they were immediately besieged again by photographers and autograph hunters. Trite as it may sound, one is proud to share the nationality of such a gifted, dedicated and personable couple.

Their next hurdle is the world championships next month. If there is any validity in the argument that it is harder to defend a title than acquire it in the first place they have triumphantly met that challenge once and may confidently expect to do so again.

Where they will next parade their talents is open to doubt. The world championships were originally to have been held in Copenhagen from March 9 to 13 but industrial trouble in Danish television threatens the occasion. The International Skating Union are to meet this week to consider an alternative.

Television revenue is so central to the planning of any big sporting event nowadays that one is inclined to wonder what happened before the tube invaded our homes. Some Britons will be watching events with anxiety because several tours of camp followers have been arranged for Copenhagen.

There was cause for British satisfaction in other areas on Saturday. Deborah Cottrill moved up from sixth place to fourth and Karen Wood from eleventh to eighth at her second attempt. admittedly, Miss Cottrill was fourth in the world championships last year but there was an element of mystery in how that came about.

She seems a more complete skater as a result of her training in the United States and, once she is able to accomplish her triple jumps without error, we may see a stronger personality emerging. Miss Wood, a strong personality in any circumstances, has borne up bravely under a number of hammer blows since winning the British title last season and she, too, must be enouraged to see things coming right for her at an international level at last.

Saturday's free skating threw a dazzling new star into the arena in Katarina Witt, of East Germany, only 16 but already with the elegance of a mature woman and the athleticism many a man would envy. Only her fallibility in school figures allowed Claudia Kristofics-Binder, of Austria, to take the overall title.

ICE DANCE: 1, J Torvill and C Dean (GB), 2.0 pts; 2, N Bestemianova and A Bukin (USSR), 4.0; 3, I Moiseyeva and A Minenkov (USSR), 6.0; 4, O Volozhinskaya and Svinin (USSR), 8.0; 5, K Barber and N Slater (GB), 10.0; 6, N Herve and P Bechu (France), 12.0. Other British placing: 9, W Sessions and S Williams, 18.0.

WOMEN'S FREE: 1, C Kristofics-Binder (Austria), 4.8 pts; 2, K Witt (EG), 5.0; 3, E Vodorezova (USSR), 7.2; 4, D Cottrill (GB), 8.8; 5, C Leistner (WG), 10.2; 6, K Wegelius (Finland), 13.4. Other British placing: 8, D Wood, 18.0.

MEDALS TABLE

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
East Germany	1	1	0
West Germany	1	0	0
Austria	1	0	0
Britain	1	0	0
Soviet Union	0	2	4
France	0	1	0

Cresta Run

Morgan Cup (Switzerland unless stated): 1, N Baracchi, 163.23 secs; 2, F G Ganseer, 164.08; 3, M Melcher, 165.10; 4, C Nater, 165.39; 5, C Tesdorpf (WG), 165.88; 6, P C Lascha, 166.32. Bott Cup (Handicap): 1, Ganseer, 161.54 (handicap 0.30); 2, D Mackie (GB) 161.57 (5.70); 3, U E Schwarzenbach, 161.71 (2.60).

Bobsleigh

All is safe but not well for the British pairings

From Ronald Faux
St Moritz, Feb 7

A track which offered an improved level of safety probably helped put the alpine nations ahead in the world two-man bobsleigh championships which ended here yesterday. The British team, sponsored by Peter Stuyvesant, was depressed to finish thirteenth and twenty-third among thirty bobs representing fifteen nations.

Jonathan Woodall and Paddy Breedin put in a consistently even performance, 0.15 seconds separating their best and worst times on four runs. Malcolm Lloyd and Peter Brugnani made a disastrous final run which dropped them far down the field.

On their third descent of the track a fault in the handle return of their sled required Brugnani to reach forward to pull the handle in. The shift in balance caused a wavering at the top of the run from which they never properly recovered.

The Swiss Olympic champion, Eric Schärer, and his brakeman, Max Ruagg, won the championship half a second ahead or the other Swiss pair, Hans Hilterbrand and ULrich Bachli. It ws Schärer's fourth world championship win. In third and fourth places were the two East German sleds.

Mo Hammond, the British team manager, was clearly depressed by the performance, particularly that of Lloyd and Brugnani who had put in far superior times during practice. Both British drivers believed the less dangerous course this year had allowed top competitors to push to the limit knowing there was little chance of an accident on the longer beds.

The improvements had been insisted upon by the sport's governing body following the deaths of four competitors in two years and the large number of crashes at the world championships in Cortina last year. The San Moritz championships have been accident-free.

Lloyd, aged 34, a Staff Sergeant from South Wales, said: "A safer course must tip things even more in favour of countries that can put in a lot of practice beforehand". The results showed clearly that countries with access to their own bob runs did best although Britain has this year lost its superiority among "lowland nations" to Holland who finished eleventh.

RESULTS: 1, Switzerland, 4min 41.33sec; 2, Switzerland, 4:41.86; 3, East Germany, 4:42.00; 13, J Woodall and P Breedin (GB); 4:48.53; 23, M Lloyd and P Brugnani (GB); 4:51.69.

Where grass roots should spread

Sydney, Feb 6. — The departing West Indies manager, Steve Camacho, warned Australian cricket authorities today not to neglect Sheffield Shield competition between the states.

He said at the airport here as the West Indians left for London on the way home: "The Sheffield Shield is the grass roots of first-class competition here and should be strengthened and guarded.

"In an international season, with two countries touring here, the Shield could look second rate. But it is the nursery of your talent as the place where young promising cricketers get their chance to represent Australia."

Mr Camacho named Allan Border as the outstanding Australian cricketer of the summer in the series against West Indies. "Border was impressive — he handled our bowlers well and was never overawed, adapting to the demands of one-day and Test cricket without sacrificing style."

The West Indian manager said: "It has been a happy tour and an incident-free one. We have managed to finish on top despite some crippling injuries which did not allow us to field our top side in Tests or one-day cricket.

"There will be speculation about our skipper Clive Lloyd", he added. "Even at 37, who would be prepared to retire him after 85 tests on his current form? We hope he will go on for several seasons yet."

The emergence of Larry Gomes and the improvement in Jeff Dujon were highlights of player performance by the West Indians, Mr Camacho said.

"Gomes gave us strong hopes for the future with his stylish batting and more than useful spin bowling. Dujon came here as a reserve keeper and has blossomed into a confident batsman-wicketkeeper."

The team left without pace bowler Michael Holding, who has had a knee ligament operation and will convalesce here. Mr Comacho said the surgery had been successful and Holding had been told he would be able to play in the Shell Shield at home in March. Reuter.

Racing

Easterby's aim may not be pure fantasy after all

By John Karter

Nothing that Peter Easterby does should ever amaze anyone in racing because time and again the man who makes your proverbial tight-lipped football manager seem positively garrulous has had us shaking our heads in wonderment. At Cheltenham next month, though, Easterby could surpass even himself by providing the first two in the Gold Cup — Little Owl and Night Nurse — for the second year running.

This time though, as seems increasingly likely after Night Nurse's run in the Freshfields Handicap Steeplechase at Kempton Park on Saturday, the one-two if anything could be reversed, thus according Easterby the additional distinction of training the first horse to achieve the Champion Hurdle Gold Cup double. Adding a third successive victory in the Champion Hurdle for Easterby's Sea Pigeon may seem to be entering the realms of pure fantasy, but is it after several of his rivals have blotted their copybooks in recent weeks?

Night Nurse delighted John O'Neill, his rider, with his powerful finish to take third place behind Bregawn, to whom he was conceding 20 lb on Saturday and who may himself be a Gold Cup winner of the future. The tight Kempton circuit is probably one of the worst that could be devised for the old horse, who really needs three miles plus on a galloping track nowadays.

O'Neill is more than hopeful of reversing the Gold Cup placings, but realistically he sees Little Owl as the one they all have to beat again. Those who took the 10-1 on offer against Night Nurse earlier this year are sitting pretty. Now it is Little Owl who represents easily the best value in the race at his current price of 8-1, although it can be argued that the bookmakers' intelligence service is such that the fact that he is being offered at such a generous price suggests that there is something amiss.

When he stormed home in last year's Gold Cup, Little Owl looked the type to win it again and again. On his reappearance this year he fell when right in contention at Cheltenham and was then pulled up after the bit slipped through his mouth in that much publicized three horse race won by Venture To Cognac at Kempton.

He can be forgiven both those mishaps and Jim Wilson, his owner rider, is adamant that he is as good as ever after having been forced to miss the Freshfields race because of slight heat in a cracked heel. Wilson wil run him in one of three races this week — the Whitbread Trial at Ascot on Wednesday, which will also see the reappearance of the Grand National Winner Aldaniti; the Compton Steeplechase at Newbury on Saturday, where he would meet another leading Gold Cup hope, Diamond Edge; or the Elk Steeplechase at Ayr on Saturday, where he is set to concede 22 lb to Political Pop, a stable companion of Bregawn.

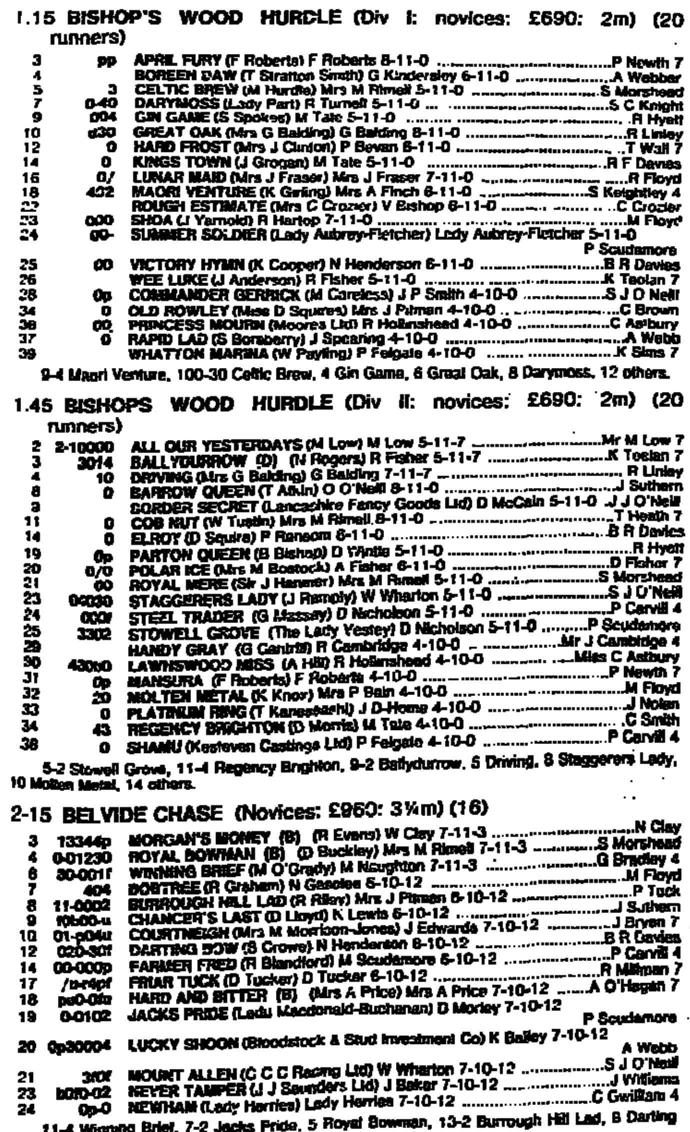
Political Pop, who won a valuable handicap on Saturday, will be seeking to extend the amazing run of the Dickinson stable in recent weeks. The Dickinsons must be admired for the way that they have creamed off big prizes, particularly with Bregawn, who was winning a valuable handicap for the third Saturday running when he took the Freshfields. Michael Dickinson now leads the trainer's table with over £118,000 in prize money.

Bregawn will now be rested and is then likely to tackle the Greenall Whitley at the beginning of March. This race could also see the long-awaited reappearance of Dickinson's 1978 King George VI Steeplechase winner, Gay Spartan.

STATE OF GOING (official): Fontwell: heavy. Wolverhampton: Hurdles — good. Chase: Good to firm. Tomorrow: Warwick: Heavy. Carlisle: Good to soft.

Wetherby results

1.0: 1, Spiders Well (4-1 fav); 2, Highland Man (6-1); 3, Systems Analysis (20-1). 25 ran.
1.30: 1, Political Pop (evens fav); 2, Indecision (7-1); 3, Bobob (12-1). 11 ran.
2.0: 1, Rheidoben (33-1); 2, Rag Dancer (8-1); 3, Sea Merchant (3-1 fav). 19 ran.
2.30: 1, Tommy Joe (5-6 fav); 2, Cheoko Ora (2-1); 3, Caldwell Case (50-1). 14 ran.
3.0: 1, Hettigorman (4-5 fav); 2, Why So (5-1); 3, Ice Plant (100-30). 4 ran.
3.30: 1, Immoral (5-1); 2, Grad Metternich (14-1); 3, Hot Wave (10-1). Grey Heat 11-4 fav. 24 ran. NR: Sweet as a Nut.
4.0: 1, Hot Fire (11-2); 2, Christmas Cottage (8-1); 3, Leopard Bosch (33-1). Master Seal 15-8 fav. 24 ran. NR: Ribena.



Wolverhampton programme

1.15 BISHOP'S WOOD HURDLE (Div I: novices: £690: 2m) (20 runners)

3	pp	APRIL FURY (F Roberts) F Roberts 8-11-0	P Newth 7
4		BOREEN DAW (T Stratton Smith) G Kindersley 6-11-0	A Webber
5	3	CELTIC BREW (M Hurdle) Mrs M Rimell 5-11-0	S Morshead
7	0-40	DARYMOSS (Lady Part) R Turnell 5-11-0	S C Knight
9	004	GIN GAME (S Spokes) M Tate 5-11-0	R Hyett
10	d30	GREAT OAK (Mrs G Balding) G Balding 8-11-0	R Linley
12	0	HARD FROST (Mrs J Clinton) P Bevan 6-11-0	T Wall 7
14	0	KINGS TOWN (J Grogan) M Tate 5-11-0	R F Davies
16	0/	LUNAR MAID (Mrs J Fraser) Mrs J Fraser 7-11-0	R Floyd
18	402	MAORI VENTURE (K Girling) Mrs A Finch 6-11-0	S Keightley 4
22		ROUGH ESTIMATE (Mrs C Crozier) V Bishop 6-11-0	C Crozier
23	000	SHOA (J Yarnold) R Hartop 7-11-0	M Floyd
24	00-	SUMMER SOLDIER (Lady Aubrey-Fletcher) Lady Aubrey-Fletcher 5-11-0	P Scudamore
25	00	VICTORY HYMN (K Cooper) N Henderson 6-11-0	B R Davies
26		WEE LUKE (J Anderson) R Fisher 5-11-0	K Teelan 7
28	0p	COMMANDER GERRICK (M Careless) J P Smith 4-10-0	S J O Neill
34	0	OLD ROWLEY (Miss D Squires) Mrs J Pitman 4-10-0	C Brown
36	00	PRINCESS MOURN (Moores Ltd) R Hollinshead 4-10-0	C Astbury
37	0	RAPID LAD (S Bosberry) J Spearing 4-10-0	A Webb
39		WHATTON MARINA (W Payling) P Felgate 4-10-0	K Sims 7

9-4 Maori Venture, 100-30 Celtic Brew, 4 Gin Game, 6 Great Oak, 8 Darymoss, 12 others.

1.45 BISHOPS WOOD HURDLE (Div II: novices: £690: 2m) (20 runners)

2	2-10000	ALL OUR YESTERDAYS (M Low) M Low 5-11-7	Mr M Low 7
3	3014	BALLYDURROW (D) (N Rogers) R Fisher 5-11-7	K Teelan 7
4	10	DRIVING (Mrs G Balding) G Balding 7-11-7	R Linley
6	0	BARROW QUEEN (T Atkin) O O'Neill 8-11-0	J Suthern
8		BORDER SECRET (Lancashire Fancy Goods Ltd) D McCain 5-11-0	J J O'Neill
11	0	COB NUT (W Tustin) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-0	T Heath 7
14	0	ELROY (D Squire) P Ransom 6-11-0	B R Davies
19	0p	PARTON QUEEN (B Bishop) D Wintle 5-11-0	R Hyett
20	0/0	POLAR ICE (Mrs M Bostock) A Fisher 6-11-0	D Fisher 7
21	00	ROYAL MERE (Sir J Hanmer) Mrs M Rimell 5-11-0	S Morshead
23	00030	STAGGERERS LADY (J Ramply) W Wharton 5-11-0	S J O'Neill
24	000f	STEEL TRADER (G Massey) D Nicholson 5-11-0	P Carvill 4
25	3302	STOWELL GROVE (The Lady Yestey) D Nicholson 5-11-0	P Scudamore
29		HANDY GRAY (G Cantrill) R Cambridge 4-10-0	Mr J Cambidge 4
30	430b0	LAWNSWOOD MISS (A Hill) R Hollinshead 4-10-0	Miss C Astbury
31	0p	MANSURA (F Roberts) F Roberts 4-10-0	P Newth 7
32	20	MOLTEN METAL (K Knox) Mrs P Bain 4-10-0	M Floyd
33	0	PLATINUM RING (T Kanesstaahl) J D-Home 4-10-0	J Nolan
34	43	REGENCY BRIGHTON (D Morris) M Tate 4-10-0	C Smith
38	0	SHAMU (Kesteven Castings Ltd) P Felgate 4-10-0	P Carvill 4

5-2 Stowell Grove, 11-4 Regency Brighton, 9-2 Ballydurrow, 5 Driving, 8 Staggerers Lady, 10 Molten Metal, 14 others.

2-15 BELVIDE CHASE (Novices: £960: 3¼m) (16)

3	13344p	MORGAN'S MONEY (B) (R Evans) W Clay 7-11-3	N Clay
4	0-01230	ROYAL BOWMAN (B) (D Buckley) Mrs M Rimell 7-11-3	S Morshead
6	30-001f	WINNING BRIEF (M O'Grady) M Naughton 7-11-3	G Bradley 4
7	404	BORTREE (R Graham) N Gaselee 6-10-12	M Floyd
8	11-0002	BURROUGH HILL LAD (R Riley) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-12	P Tuck
9	f0b00-u	CHANCER'S LAST (D Lloyd) K Lewis 6-10-12	J Suthern
10	01-p04u	COURTNEIGH (Mrs M Morrison-Jones) J Edwards 7-10-12	J Bryan 7
12	020-30f	DARTING BOW (S Crowe) N Henderson 8-10-12	B R Davies
14	00-000p	FARMER FRED (R Blandford) M Scudamore 6-10-12	P Carvill 4
17	/p-r4pf	FRIAR TUCK (D Tucker) D Tucker 6-10-12	R Millman 7
18	pu0-0fu	HARD AND BITTER (B) (Mrs A Price) Mrs A Price 7-10-12	A O'Hagan 7
19	0-0102	JACKS PRIDE (Lady Macdonald-Buchanan) D Morley 7-10-12	P Scudamore
20	0p30004	LUCKY SHOON (Bloodstock & Stud Investment Co) K Bailey 7-10-12	A Webb
21	3f0f	MOUNT ALLEN (C C C Racing Ltd) W Wharton 7-10-12	S J O'Neill
23	b0f0-02	NEVER TAMPER (J J Saunders Ltd) J Baker 7-10-12	J Williams
24	0p-0	NEWHAM (Lady Herries) Lady Herries 7-10-12	C Gwilliam 4

11-4 Winning Brief, 7-2 Jacks Pride, 5 Royal Bowman, 13-2 Burrough Hill Lad, 8 Darting Bow, 10 Lucky Shoon, 16 others.

2.45 BONNINGALE CHASE (Handicap: £1,752: 2m) (14 runners)

2	143321	SPIN AGAIN (D) (Mrs D Stoddart) D Morley 7-12-3 (6ex)	P Scudamore
3	403004	HILLY WAY (S Swann) P O'Connor 12-12-2	Mr P O'Connor
4	024010	SKEGBY (D) (Bowie Jean Clothing Co) O Brennan 8-11-10 (5ex)	Brennan 7
5	043110	REGENT'S GARDEN (D) (M Dennehy) A Andrews 10-11-8	C Bourne 7
6	1001-40	STRAIGHT CASH (D) (Mrs E Skailes) Mrs W Sykes 9-11-8	C Brown
7	04-0014	BALLYBUTLER (D) (Mrs V Bishop) V Bishop 10-11-7	Mr C Crozier
8	11-0021	GO FREE (D) (S Jones) B Cambridge 9-11-4	J Cambidge 7
10	200003	STRAIGHT LINE (D) (R Mann) Mrs M Rimell 9-11-2	S Morshead
13	3113-2f	REPIQUE (CD) (Mrs Earl Jones) Earl Jones 8-11-0	R F Davies
14	130-001	BANADOR (D) (P Waring) R Perkins 11-10-12 (6ex)	S Keightley 4
15	30-p021	DURHAM LAD (D) (J Kelly) C Wildman 9-10-10 (6 ex)	A Webber
16	332r-p0	INDIRED (D) (K Girling) Mrs A Finch 10-10-6	S C Knight
18	0p/00b-	OLD CHAD (D) (G A Farndon Ltd) R Hollinshead 11-10-0	D Corcory 7
20	433-p00	MASTER WHAT (F Jackson) W Clay 10-10-0	M Elliott 4

4 Spin Again, 5 Durham Lad, 6 Repique, 13-2 Straight Line, 8 Banador, 10 Skegby 12 Regent's Garden, 14 Go Free, 16 others.

3.15 BURNHILL CHASE (Novices handicap: £1,392: 2m)

5	0-03430	JAMES SEYMOUR (D Picton) N Gaselee 6-11-7	R Linley
8	4-00421	KINDLED SPIRIT (B Clarke) W Mann 7-11-1 (5ex)	A Webb
9	030-01p	BIV (Sir D Hill-Wood) Miss A Hill-Wood 7-10-13	P Tuck
13	002134	CRITICAL TIMES (D) (G Cronk) D Nicholson 5-10-10	P Scudamore
18	2pp4p-0	WILTON'S FIRST (Bowie Jean Clothing Co Ltd) O Brennan 10-10-8	M Brennan 7
19	p00140	NOVUS KING (M Smith and Son Ltd) M Tate 6-10-7	C Smith
20	00-0141	CORBY GLEN (CD) (Heathavon Stables Ltd) J Spearing 10-10-6 (6ex)	R Dickin
23	044200	OKEHAMPTON (H Harpur-Crewe) P O'Connor 7-10-3	S Jobar
26	00000	FANCY FELLOW (R Burt) W Clay 8-10-0	M Elliott 4
27	fu-040f	BALLET MASTER (Lord Harlech) A W Jones 9-10-0	S Keightley

2 Kindled Spirit, 5-2 Critical Times, 7-2 Biv, 5-1 Corby Glen, 8-1 James Seymour, 14-1 others.

3.45 BISHOP'S WOOD HURDLE (Div. III: Novices: £690: 2m) (20)

2	0p0410	PEM PEM (A Sutton) A Sutton 6-11-7	F Morris
4	00	BEVMARK (I J Donny Ltd) R Fisher 5-11-0	K Teelan 7
7	002	DO OR DIE (A Morton) P Bailey 5-11-0	R Linley
10	00	FRENETIC FRED (Mrs D Richards) D Richards 7-11-0	Mr D Browne 4
11		GOELYN GANG (Mrs P Bain) Mrs P Bain 7-11-0	R Hyett
12	0-0	GRAND REVIEW (Mrs W Sykes) Mrs W Sykes 6-11-0	C Brown
16	00	MAC'S DELIGHT (H Maddever) Rex Carter 5-11-0	A Webber
24	p-	TUDOR EXPRESS (R Dowsett) R Hartop 6-11-0	M Floyd
25	00043	WEALTHY (M Low) M Low 6-11-0	Mr M Low 7
26	2401	PALATINATE (CD) (Capt J Macdonald-Buchanan) D Nicholson 4-10-7	P Scudamore
28	0	CHINA RUN (F Howles) F Yardley 4-10-0	C Smith
29		DEBT FOLLOWER (Mrs G Jones) Mrs G Jones 4-10-0	J Burke
30	0	DOBSONS CHOICE (E Evans) E Evans 4-10-0	J Suthern
31	002p	FIERY GLEN (T Hodgkins) B Cambridge 4-10-0	Mr J Cambidge 4
32	0	GOLDEN ALIBI (Mrs Earl Jones) Earl Jones 4-10-0	R F Davies
33		KING'S JUG (David Timothy Ltd) Mrs M Rimell 4-10-0	S Morshead
34		KNIGHTHALL (D Brereton) A W Jones 4-10-0	S Keightley 4
35	3200	MARINE (S Freedman) G Balding 4-10-0	Mr S Freedman 7
37	2	ROYAL BAIZE (R Redding) J Baker 4-10-0	John Williams
40	02	WINMARIE (A Newcombe) C Hill 4-10-0	J O'Neill

9-4 Palatinate, 100-30 Do Or Die, 4 Royal Baize, 13-2 Marine, 10 Wealthy, 12 Pem Pem, 20 others.

4.15 BECKBURY HURDLE (Handicap: 5-y-o: £939: 2m) (11 runners)

1	121214	SKAT (C) (M Pipe) M Pipe 11-10	P Loach
5	03-0301	AVOGEM (D) (Mrs L Sewell) Mrs M Rimell 11-4 (7ex)	S Morshead
6	0300-03	CORAL LEISURE (M Jackson) G Balding 11-3	M Lynn 7
8	300	STANS PRIDE (Mrs M Morgan) G Price 10-9	R F Davies
9	203000	ROYAL CLASSIC (R Savery) D Wintle 10-8	Miss A Dare 7
10	10000-0	BE FRIENDLY TOO (D) (Leisure Racing) R Fisher 10-8	K Teelan 7
11	00-0000	MISS LOVE (W Love) M Tate 10-8	C Smith
12	0034	LORENTINO (Lord Leverhulme) W Francis 10-8	R Crank
15	233033	RENREBO (Westwood Garages) M Naughton 10-2	J A Harris 4
16	002302	NATIVE BREAK (R Morris) Mrs W Sykes 10-1	I Conroy 7
18	000-pu0	CALMACUTTER (Calmac Ltd) A W Jones 10-0	Miss D Jones 7

5-2 Avogem, 7-2 Renrebo, 5 Skat, 6 Lorentino, 10 Coral Leisure, 12 Native Break, 14 others.

Fontwell Park programme

1.30 CLIMPING CHASE (£1,660: 2m 2½f) (10 runners)

1	132044	SANTOSS (J M Bradley) J M Bradley 9-11-7	P Liddicoat
2	00/1p-3	GLENTURK (B Turner) P Harris 9-11-3	N Hisket
4	33p002	WOOL MERCHANT (G Dedman) T M Jones 9-11-0	A Madgwick
5	040/00u	BY THE RIVERSIDE (Mrs M Langley-Pope) P Harris 8-10-10	M Richards
6	0p0-00p	CLASH PRINCE (M Gerlsby) R Wall 11-10-10	C Mann
7	000-0p2	CUSHENDALL (D Britton) P Allingham 8-10-10	M Hammond 5
11	bb00-00	ROCAMIST (T Nixon) T Forster 8-10-10	D Jackson
12	220b2p	TIGHT SCHEDULE (C) (J Bridger) J Bridger 12-10-10	R Strong
13	p83-ppp	TOWN COUNSELLOR (C) (Mrs L Browning) D Browning 9-10-10	J Akehurst
14	00003-0	WHEATCLOSE (Mrs M Gardiner) R Hodges 11-10-10	P Croucher 5

5-2 Glenturk, 11-4 Santoss, 4 Cushendall, 6 Tight Schedule, 8 Wool Merchant, 12 By The Riverside, 20 others.

2.0 PAGHAM HURDLE (Selling handicap: £879: 2¼m) (22)

2	020000	BEAU WYNK (F Chamberlain) A Chamberlain 9-11-7	Mr A Chamberlain 7
4	441000	MR LINNET (CD) (M James) P Butler 10-11-3	P Butler
5	00230-1	ALBRIZZI (R Short) J Jenkins 5-11-2	M Harrington 4
7	00-400	WESLEY BOAT (G Lucas) J M Bradley 8-11-0	G Davies 4
8	1/0	VRONDI (C) (B Wise) B Wise 10-10-10	P Powell
9	0300-p0	TORNADO PRINCE (Miss A De Veuve) R Atkins 9-10-9	R Atkins
10	0024/00	RUB ON (Mrs F Bentley) G Balding 8-10-9	B Reilly
11	fr-000p	GEETEEBEE (G Bird) A Moore 8-10-9	G Moore 4
12	2340/p0	HAYWIRE (B) (M Baker) M Baker 8-10-9	Mrs D Crissell 4
14	030fb0-	OPENING NIGHT (Mrs E White) C White 8-10-8	M Perrett 7
15	0000-0	ERRANTRY (D Dye) D A Wilson 7-10-7	M Coyle 4
1	10-4044	GUERNAVENTURE (Mrs F Bowden) R Blakeney 7-10-6	H Davies
22	432120	MANAWA (P Hawkins) A Davidson 6-10-6	Steve Knight
24	b33014	GUYWOOD (B) (K Sykes) P M Taylor 4-10-4	V McKevitt
25	144	GLENORA (D Lewis) D Lewis 7-10-2	M O'Halloran
26	04000-0	TUDOR MAESTRO (Mrs M Munden) N Lee-Judson 10-10-2	J Hughes 4
27	0/000-0	POLARITA (A Aylett) A Aylett 9-10-2	G Jones
30	4/0-032	GREAT THINGS (C) (Mrs G Davidson) A Davidson 9-10-0	R Rowe
32	000030-	KING OF ACCORDA (P Amey) B Stevens 7-10-0	S Smith Eccles
34	01004-0	LYDIAS OWN (Mrs L Browning) D Browning 8-10-0	J Akehurst 4
35	3p0-020	QUESTURNIUS (Miss S Gough) H Willis 7-10-0	B De Haan
36	00000	BLUE TRUTH (D Norman) K Bishop 7-10-0	Mr P Nicholls 7

7-4 Albrizzi, 4 Great Things, 6 Guernaventure, 8 Mr Linnet, 10 Guywood, 12 Questurnius, Haywire, Vrondi, 20 others.

2.30 FINDON CHASE (Handicap: £1,694: 2m 2½f) (9)

1	00-3442	TIEPOLINO (C) (Mrs B House) P Cundell 10-11-10	R Champion
3	02110-0	ROYAL ADMIRAL (S Allday) T Forster 7-11-9	H Davies
5	00140	DEER MOUNT (Mrs M Babbage) Mrs M Babbage 8-11-1	M Babbage
6	f430240	HOPEFUL ANSWER (B Murray) G Balding 9-11-0	B Reilly
7	334p40	BUTTON BOY (CD) (Mrs J Salter) S Forsey 9-10-7	M Richards 7
9	100-p43	RODNEY PARADE (S Pelling) R Armytage 7-10-5	R Goldstein
10	010232	QUEEN OF THE BOGS (C Henty) P Bailey 9-10-0	R Rowe
11	0p-2333	SHACKLETONS FLIER (R Shaw) R Shaw 8-10-0	Mr P Nicholls 7
12	00-004f	POOLE BAY (E) (S Richards) B Stevens 6-10-0	S Smith Eccles

9-4 Royal Admiral, 3 Tiepolino, 4 Queen of the Bogs, 6 Rodney Parade, 8 Shackletons Flier, 10 Hopeful Answer, 16 others.

3.00 CHICHESTER HURDLE (4-y-o: £2,292: 2¼m) (7)

4	00	CHARLIE DAN (A Moore) A Moore 11-0	G Moore 4
5	104331	CHUMMY'S BEST (C Gavonia) D Nicholson 11-0	S Smith Eccles
10	1	PRINCE BLESS (CD) (T Heyward) Mrs N Smith 11-0	J Francome
13	04	STANDON ROCK (R Whalley) P Kelloway 11-0	—
15		TENDER ANGUS (Mrs E Boucher) J Gifford 11-0	R Rowe
17	00	THE IRISH RHINE (D Wilson) D Wilson 11-0	M Coyle 4
18	0344	VOICE OF PROGRESS (D Horswell) P Bailey 11-0	H Davies

11-8 Prince Bless, 5-2 Chummy's Best, 7-2 Tender Angus, 8 Standon Rock, 12 Voice of Progress, 20 others.

3.30 SELSEY CHASE (novices: £2,508: 3m 2½f) (11)

2	0u0031	RICH ENCOUNTER (Mrs M Babbage) Mrs M Babbage 8-11-2	Mr N Babbage
3	41221	SARON KYBO (I Kerman) J Gifford 6-11-2	R Rowe
4	f1a0f	SUPERBREAKS (S Lanaway) J Gifford 8-11-2	R Champion
8	p0	FAIRLY HIGH (B) (A McEntee) R Hoad 7-10-11	R Goldstein
9	f000-	FREDDIE SPHINX (S Richardson) Rex Carter 7-10-11	S Smith Eccles
10	0p0	HIPPED (A Owen) G Thorner 8-10-11	R Kington
12	2-32222	MISS PILGRIM (Mrs J Walter) B Wise 6-10-11	R Rowell
13	42240	OSSOLIN (S Dyrhoff) M Scudamore 8-10-11	H Davies
14	00f00f	ROCK WOOD (Mrs B Norman) R Hannon 6-10-11	A Turnell
15	f044f	ROUND TWIST (B Tyler) Mrs D Oughton 8-10-11	M Coyle 4
17	3f/p0-	STRAIGHTLACE (N Brummit) F Winter 10-10-11	—

13-8 Rich Encounter, 11-4 Miss Pilgrim, 9-2 Saron Kybo, 6 Superbreaks, 10 Ossolin, 12 Straight Lace, 20 others.

4.0 LYMINSTER HURDLE (Handicap: £1,800: 2¼m) (11)

2	1111-03	COURT GREEN (CD) (D Tyler) Mrs N Smith 5-11-7	J Francome
3	400-324	NIGHT WATCH (C) (P Mellon) I Balding 8-11-5	B Reilly
4	033-000	SHARP DEAL (V Kilkenny) N Henderson 5-10-12	S Smith Eccles
5	0-00131	INDIANA DARE (CD) (Mrs D Cousins) J Jenkins 8-10-11 (6ex)	M Harrington 4
6	0-00400	COLD JUSTICE (D) (Miss M Robins) C Benstead 9-10-7	R Rowell
7	13-0032	TUTHILL BOND (D Miller) N Vallaghan 5-10-6	H Davies
9	12-0004	TARAS (A Aylett) A Aylett 6-10-4	G Jones
13	003002	LINTON (CD) (Mrs S Threlfall) D Underwood 8-10-0	J Redmond 4
16	420041	DOONALLY (C) (Mrs B Wilson) P Mitchell 6-10-0	R G Hughes
17	000000	ASHLEIGH BOY (CD) (G Martin) R Hoad 5-10-0	R Goldstein
19	000-pp0	PROMALTA (G Harper) A Moore 3-10-0	G Moore

9-4 Tuthill Bond, 7-2 Court Green, 9-2 Night, 6 Indiana Dare, 8 Sharp Deal, 10 Linton, 12 Taras, 20 others.

Fontwell Park selections

By Our Racing Staff

1.30 Wool Merchant, 2.00 Great Things, 2.30 Deer Mount, 3.00 Prince Bless, 3.30 Rich Encounter, 4.00 Sharp Deal.

Wolverhampton selections

By Our Racing Staff

1.15 Great Oak, 1.45 Ballydurrow, 2.15 Royal Bowman, 2.45 Go Free, 3.15 Kindled Spirit, 3.45 Do or Die, 4.15 Avogem.

Stratford results

1.45: 1, Emerald Iron (15-8); 2, St William (8-1); 3, On Trust (20-1). Salthouse 5-6 fav. 13 ran. NR: Don Sabreur.
2.15: 1, Scot Lane (7-2 fav); 2, Hobu (14-1); 3, Persian Wanderer (20-1). 15 ran. NR: Koongaddy.
2.45: 1, Pedalo (20-1); 2, Kathies Lad (16-1); 3, Taboka (33-1); 4, Steeplerone Knave (16-1). Frampo 4-1 fav. 21 ran. NR: Robin Hood.
3.15: 1, Princelion (100-30); 2, St Alezan (2-1 fav); 3, Captain Shadow (33-1). 7 ran.
3.45: 1, Midnight Song (15-2); 2, Masterson (9-4 fav); 3, Waltzer (10-1). 8 ran. NR: Jerome Seymour.
4.15: 1, Persian Schoiler (4-6 fav); 2, Royal Dust (20-1); 3, Cedar's Daughter (5-1). 8 ran.

Kempton results

1.30: 1, Holmwood Star (7-1); 2, Franchesse (15-2); 3, Walnut Wonder (8-1). Kilbritain Castle 2-1 fav. 13 ran.
2.0: 1, Spartan Major (13-2); 2, Dramatist (7-4 fav); 3, King Weasel (7-1). 8 ran.
2.30: 1, Bregawn (3-1 fav); 2, Giant Pilgrim (16-1); 3, Night Nurse (4-1). 9 ran.
3.0: 1, Sea Image (11-4); 2, Fay Freeze (11-2); 3, Golden Vow (2-1 fav). 8 ran.
3.30: 1, Ralphin (5-1 fav); 2, Hamsoon (33-1); 3, Donegal Prince (16-1). 8 ran.
4.0: 1, Sir Bewra (5-2); 2, Abo Abo (12-1); 3, Carved Opal (5-4 fav). 22 ran.

Lacrosse

West challenge North's Superiority

By Peter Tallow

North, the defending champions, won all their three games to come out top of the first territorial weekend but it was only after formidable and unexpected challenge from the West who upset the recognized form tables by beating South 7-5 at Wycombe Abbey, High Wycombe, on Saturday. West defeated the co-favourites, South, through an impregnable defence led by their captain Lois Richardson with Maddy McDonagh in goal barring entry from all but the most adventurous forwards. West went on yesterday to beat Combined Universities 7-1 with the same pattern of close marking, accurate passing and keen anticipation. But they faltered in the last game, only drawing 3-3 with East who were determined to stop the new challengers.

RESULTS: East 8, Midland 16; North 11, Combined Universities 1; South 5, West 7; North 8, Midlands 5; North 9, East 6; Combined Universities 1, West 7; Midlands 4, South 14; East 3, West 3.

Rowing

Character test passed by Oxford crew

By Jim Railton

Each time the universities of Oxford and London meet on the Tideway, an interesting conflict is guaranteed. They set out to destroy themselves during the weekend, but yesterday, Oxford, after a searching test of character, came out on top. After an unprecedented series of disasters, Oxford's Boat Race (March 27) chances finally took off.

They tamed London University, despite Oxford's President and stroke, Conington, being injured, after promoting to stroke an oarsman unfamiliar with the starboard side and including a substitute recruited off the bank, who was an athletic invalid three weeks ago. All this and Oxford came out on top over London, world under-23 Champions in eights, with two oarsmen and a coxswain who last year won the world bronze medal in coxed pairs. Yet to be fair, London University have yet to put their talented act together.

Yesterday saw the continuance of incidents that began on Saturday when clashes of blades ruined the exercise. Sadly Oxford's stroke Conington strained his back — an oar went into it and a lateral twist from another collision left him incapacitated.

But this Oxford samurai took his place again yesterday, only to end in pain when the coxswains — no less than Oxford's Sue Brown and London's Ellison — contested yet another martial exercise with oars. Five minutes later Oxford ended up almost a length ahead, after several clashes and Conington grey with pain.

Oxford then recruited London University's junior international Reinbold, who collapsed three weeks ago with acute angina; resettled their crew and only surrendered their one-length lead after three minutes in the second contest before it was wisely abandoned.

Reinbold was then rescued from the crew and Oxford's eternal samurai coach Dan Topolski joined in for the third and final effort. Oxford were now open to be taken for the third successive time, yet went on to end the day with a victory by half a length.

French racing

Bold Image may go for Lincoln

British riders ran out comfortable winners of both the races in which they were involved at Cagnes-sur-Mer yesterday. Divine Madness (Paul Tulk) beat a fellow invader, Blue Emmanuelle (John Reid) by two lengths and a half in the £3,205 Prix de Moustiers.

Robert Armstrong's colt paid 4.20 francs for a win and 1.70 for a place while the runner-up returned 1.40 all including a one franc stake. St Conal (Paddy Young) finished a fair fourth but Flash Lamp, Rust Free and Spanish Point were all well in the rear.

Young had earlier scored an easy victory by three lengths and a half on Bold Image, who moved from John Winter's stable to that of Willie Hastings-Bass during the winter. In the £2,747 Prix de Vallauris, Bold Image, who paid 9.00 to win and 3.00 for a place, is likely to be aimed for the William Hill Lincoln H'cap.

Squash rackets

Opposite sides of county fence for Kendal-born brothers

By Rex Bellamy

Yorkshire won the inter-county championship for the seventh consecutive year by beating Lancashire 3—2 in yesterday's final, sponsored by Cooper Vision at Lee-on-Solent. Lancashire may have been slightly flattered by the margin because Yorkshire already had an impregnable 3—1 lead when David Pearson confounded the national and world rankings by beating Ian Robinson 9—0, 7—9, 4—9, 9—4, 9—4 in a first-strings match that had been deprived of some of its competitive validity but ultimately was won and lost on merit.

Even without Christy Willstrop, who had been otherwise engaged in the world junior championship at Kuala Lumpur, Yorkshire could still call on four of the top 13 men in the English rankings. Their entire team at Lee-on-Solent are among the world's 45 leading players. Lancashire were without the national champion, Philip Kenyon, but the chances are that Yorkshire's strength in depth would have been too much for them, anyway.

Jamie Hickox, another competitor at Kuala Lumpur, was missing from the Surrey team who took Lancashire to a deciding rubber—arduously won from behind by Barry Watkins — in Saturday's semi-final round. Surrey's wins came from two players whose wealth of experience compensated for declining energies—first Bob Johnson, then Stuart Courtney, who put Surrey level at 2-all by saving three match points during an exciting, improbable recovery from 0—6 down in the fifth game.

Yorkshire had an easier task against Hampshire, whose only success occurred when Bryan Pearson, nursing a troublesome achilles tendon in readiness for the final, gave John le Lievre no more than a cursory workout in a dead match. This superficially embarrassing concession worked out as Pearson and Yorkshire hoped it would because he was lively enough to give Yorkshire their decisive win by crisply disposing of the inevitably jaded Watkins yesterday.

The presence of the Pearson brothers on opposite sides yesterday needs explaining, especially as they were born in Kendal. It just happened that Bryan moved to Rotherham, David to Preston, and that they thus acuired residential qualifications for two counties never renowned for any brotherly appreciation of each other's qualities.

For a time yesterday it seemed that Yorkshire could not equate strenuous exercise with the hours usually reserved for the anticipation and consumption of Sunday lunch. Andrew Gill was much too sharp for the sluggishly predictable Richard Mosley, who may have underrated him. On the next court Zain Saleh (there are distant Arabic connexions), who is a fortnight short of his seventeenth birthday, saved two match points in the fourth game and kept Steve Bateman on court for an hour and 17 minutes.

While these two were still debating whether Lancashire would acquire a 2—0 lead, the ever-serene Ashley Naylor prevented it by beating Mark Hornby next door. Naylor and Bateman in turn took Yorkshire out of a nasty corner. Bryan Pearson sent them roaring home and David Pearson then achieved a belated triumph.

SEMI-FINAL ROUND: Yorkshire 4, Hampshire 1 (Yorkshire names first): I Robinson beat J Easter 8—10, 9—6, 9—6, 9—6; B Pearson lost to J le Lievre 1—9, 0—9, 0—9; A Naylor beat M Shaw 9—4, 9—4, 9—6; S Bateman beat R le Lievre 9—6, 9—1, 2—9, 9—2; R Mosley beat M Taylor 7—9, 9—7, 9—6, 9—4. Lancashire 3, Surrey 2 (Lancashire names first): D Pearson beat D Lee 9—1, 9—6, 9—0; B Watkins beat G Hoare 8—10, 9—0, 2—9, 9—4, 9—6; M Hornby lost to S Courtney 2—9, 3—9, 9—6, 9—5, 8—10; Zain Saleh beat G Blair 5—9, 9—5, 9—2, 9—7; A Gill lost to R Johnson 9—10, 9—1, 7—9, 4—9.

FINAL: Yorkshire 3, Lancashire 2 (Yorkshire names first): Robinson lost to D Pearson 0—9, 9—7, 9—4, 4—9, 4—9; B Pearson beat Watkins 9—7, 9—1, 9—2; Naylor beat Hornby 9—5, 9—0, 5—9, 9—5; Bateman beat Saleh 9—6, 1—9, 9—7, 8—10, 9—1; Mosley lost to Gill 3—9, 1—9, 1—9.

SINGAPORE: World Junior championships: New Zealand 3, Thailand 0; Scotland 3, Hongkong 0 (M McLean beat J Choy, 9—6, 9—7, 9—6; B Tall beat D Tolly 9—3, 9—5, 9—3; F Ellis beat P Johnson, 9—1, 9—0, 9—1; Pakistan 3, Canada 0; Wales 2, Singapore 1 (A Williams lost to P Hill, 6—9, 4—9, 4—9; A Davies beat Tang Chian Cin, 9—7, 9—2, 9—4; H Evans beat A Tan, 9—10, 9—4, 9—2, 9—5); England 3, West Germany 0 (C Willstrop beat C Martini, 9—5, 9—3, 9—7; M Bodimeade beat S Ruckert, 9—5, 9—2, 9—2; J Hickox beat T Konigsberger, 9—1, 9—8, 7—9, 9—5); Ireland 2, Malaysia 1 (J Barret beat I Lau, 10—7, 3—9, 9—4, 2—9, 9—6; J Mackay beat Yeo Lam Jit, 9—2, 9—3, 9—6; J Pheland lost to R Hashim, 5—9, 5—9, 9—1, 3—9); Australia w/o Finland; Sweden w/o Nigeria.

Fencing

Miss Martin retains her title

By a Special Correspondent

Linda Martin, aged 27, retained the de Beaumont international trophy this weekend against a strong field which included entrants from 10 countries.

Miss Martin and her fellow Britons, Ann Brannon and Sue Hoad, reached the final along with two Americans and one competitor each from France, Denmark and the Netherlands. The previous round proved too much for the other British competitors Hilary Cawthorne, Clare Gobey, and Fiona McIntosh.

Miss Hoad, appearing for the first time in an international final, was drawn against Carin de Brie (Netherlands), whose aggression and experience gave her an 8—4 win.

Miss Brannon and Miss Martin battled on to the top four, where Miss Brannon met Miss de Brie. Fighting with great determination, she was leading 6—5 when the Dutch girl strained a leg muscle, and retired for a 10-minute rest. She returned with renewed strength, however, and Miss Brannon, having lost her momentum, lost 9—7.

Miss Martin fared better against Anni Max-Madsen (Denmark), a past winner of this event. With a series of excellent parry ripostes on the shoulder and back, she defeated the Danish girl 8—1. Miss Martin, who was showing fine form after a slow start, now met Miss de Brie for the title and gave a fine display of classical fencing, winning the last hit, and the competition with a very fast, well-timed direct attack.

The British women got the weekend off to a perfect start with victory in an informal four-a-side match against France. Having been a close match throughout, and with the score at 8—7 to Britain, Miss Martin was left to fight the crucial last bout against Anne Francoise Sallé.

Miss Martin, using her speciality—a perfectly timed counter-attack executed at lightning speed—defeated the French girl 5—0, to give Britain a 9—7 victory.

DE BEAUMONT TROPHY: 1 L Martin (GB); 2, C de Brie (Netherlands); 3, A Max-Madsen (Denmark); 4, A Brannon (GB); 5, S Hoad (GB); 6, J Angelakis (US); 7, D Waples (US); 8, A F Sallé (France).

Chris Gregory



Time for a breather: Miss Martin (centre) takes stock of a winning position.

Athletics

McGregor and Rose excel indoors

One English athlete equalled a world indoor best and another set a new national best in separate meetings in the United States over the weekend.

Running the rare event of 500 yards in the Los Angeles Times Indoor Games, Janine McGregor, the 23-year-old quarter-miler from Hartlepool, won in 63.3 seconds to equal the mark set in 1977 by Rosaline Bryant, the American girl. "I know this distance isn't run that much outside the United States, but even so it's nice to have a record", she said.

Nick Rose was the other Briton to excel. Racing three miles in Louisville, Rose, a Bristolian, who now lives in the Kentucky capital, won in 12 minutes 57.8 seconds to set a meeting record as well as a new English indoor best. His mark beat the 13:00.00 previous national best set by Tony Staynings.

Other world indoor bests were created in both meetings. In Los Angeles Mary Decker, 23, added two more best performances to her growing list when she set new marks for 2,000 and 3,000 metres in the same race.

Miss Decker covered 3,000 metres in 8:47.3, having gone through 2,000 metres in 5:53.4. She now holds six world indoor best times. Her 3,000 metre time cut 3½ seconds off the previous best of 8:50.8 seconds set by Norway's Grete Waitz. The 2,000 metre record of 5:55.2 was held by the American Francie Larrieu.

The other world best came from Billy Olson, who broke his own world indoor best in the pole vault with an effort of 18 feet, 9¼ inches in Louisville. "I said a little prayer and the Lord answered," the American said after clearing the bar on his third try. His new clearance is ¼ inch higher than he managed last month in Toronto.

For the record

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Dallas Mavericks 95, Indiana Pacers 89; Cleveland Cavaliers 88, Atlanta Hawks 87; New Jersey Nets 125, Detroit Pistons 120; Seattle Supersonics 125, Utah Jazz 105. Friday: Philadelphia 76'ers 116, New Jersey Nets 112; Boston Celtics 145, Denver Nuggets 144; Los Angeles Lakers 90, Washington Bullets 87; Detroit Pistons 110, Chicago Bulls 105; Kansas City Kings 109, San Antonio Spurs 102; Milwaukee Bucks 117, Dallas Mavericks 92; Houston Rockets 106, Phoenix Suns 104; New York Knicks 90, San Diego Clippers 85; Portland Trailblazers 121, Utah Jazz 100; Seattle Supersonics 108, Golden State Warriors 96.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Solent 117, John Carr Doncaster 101; Lada Birchwood 77, Crystal Palace 82; Whitbread Manchester 90, Flat Birmingham 101; Talbot Guildford 90, Ovaltine Hemel Hempstead 92; Sunderland 89, Flat Birmingham 87; Liverpool 66, Lada Birchwood 76; TCB Brighton 95, John Carr Doncaster 118; Crystal Palace 97, Cantabrica Kingston 83. Second division: Colchester 90, Brunel Uxbridge 106; Bradford Mythbreakers 100, Bolton 71; Leicester 104, Camden 95; West Brom Kestrels 113, Travellodge Milton Keynes 106. Women's first division: Solent 85, Stockport Thoroglaze 70; Sheffield 47, Nottingham 60; London YMCA 70, Sheffield 51; Southgate UDT 63, Stockport Thoroglaze 60. National cup final: Second leg, Colchester Tigers 45, Avon Cosmetics Northants 58 (Tiger win on aggregate).

Ice Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago Black Hawks 4, Boston Bruins 3; Quebec Nordiques 4, Philadelphia Flyers 3; New York Islanders 9, Detroit Red Wings 2; Edmonton Oilers 5, Toronto Maple Leafs 1; Washington Capitals 6, Pittsburgh Penguins 4; Hartford Whalers 4, St Louis Blues 2; Montreal Canadiens 5, Colorado Rockies 3; Los Angeles Kings 3, Vancouver Canucks 4. Friday: Winnipeg Jets 5, Calgary Flames 3; Hartford Whalers 4, Colorado Rockies 4.

Tennis

TORONTO: Molson challenge: semi-finals: J McEnroe (US) beat P McNamara (Australia), 6—3, 6—4; I Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat V Gerulaitis (US), 6—2, 6—4.

DENVER: Tournament semi-finals: A Gomez (Ecuador) beat K Warwick (Australia), 6—4, 7—6; J Sadri (US) beat A Mayer (US), 7—6, 6—4.

BUENOS AIRES: Grand Prix: semi-finals: G Vilas (Argentina) beat D Perez (Uruguay). Doubles quarter-finals: M Orantes (Spain) and A Gimenez (Spain) beat J du Pasquier (Switzerland) and R Vassello (France), 4—6, 7—6, 7—5.

DETROIT: Women's tournament: A Jaeger (US) beat W Turnbull (Australia), 7—6, 6—3; M Jausovec (Yugoslavia) beat R Fairbank (SA), 6—3, 6—3.

KING'S CUP: semi-finals: Czechoslovakia 3, Sweden 0; West Germany 3, USSR 0.

Rifle shooting

bore teams: 1, Civil Service, 1,954pts; **LONDON:** London women's small-bore: 3, WRAF, 1,956; 3, WRNS, 1,934. Individual: 1, P Munn and J Carty, 199.

Volleyball

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Leeds AI 3, Grangewood Rockets (Nottingham) 1; TSB Ounsdale Rucanor (Birmingham) 3, Liverpool Cardinals 0; Kelly Girl Internationals (London) 3, Polonia (London) 1; Spark (London) 3, Hillingdon 2. Second division: Cantrill (Liverpool) 3, RAF Harriers 2; Speedwell II (Bristol) 3, Coventry Riga 2; TSB Sefton (Liverpool) 3, Sikh Temple (Birmingham) 2; Roundwood (London) 3, Essex Estonians 0.

Speed skating

ALKMAAR (Netherlands): World Sprint Championships: Men: 500 metres: 1, S Khlebnikov (USSR), 38.05sec; 2, V Koslov (USSR), 38.51; 3, G Boucher (Canada), 38.53; 4, F Roenning (Norway), 38.57; 5, L de Boer (Netherlands), 38.73. 1,000 metres: 1, Khlebnikov, 1min 18.23sec; 2, Boucher, 1:18.53; 3, Roenning, 1:18.87; 4, K Engelstad (Norway), 1:19.18; 5, I Ykema (Netherlands), 1:19.80. Men's combination: 1, Khlebnikov, 154.25pts; 2, Boucher 154.40; 3, Roenning 155.17; 4, Koslov, 155.58; 5, J A Carlberg (Sweden), 157.27. Women 500 metres: 1, N Petruseva (USSR), 41.38sec; 2, K Busch (EG), 41.65; 3, N Glebova (USSR), 42.05; 4, M Holzner (WG), 42.15; 5, I Boldireva (USSR), 42.27. 1,000 metres: 1, Petruseva, 1min 23.69sec; 2, Busch, 1:26.07; 3, Y van Gennip (Netherlands), 1:26.28; 4, W Kurova (USSR), 1:28.09; 5 equal, M Holzner (WG) and S Doctor (US), 1:28.22. Women's combinations: 1, Petruseva, 167.08; 2, Busch, 169.36; 3, Holzner, 171.73; 4, van Gennip, 172.00.

Lacrosse

NORTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Mellor 11, Ashton 9; Old Hulmeians 4, South Manchester and Wythenshawe 9; Old Stopfordians 15, Heaton Mersey 4; Old Waconians 11, Timperley 14; Sheffield University 23, Urmston 5; Stockport 7, Cheadle 13.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Purley 1, Cambridge University 0; Buckhurst Hill 8, Kenton 8; Hillcroft 2, Lee 20.

Cross-country

NOTTINGHAM: British Universities SF championship: Men (7 miles): 1, K Foster (Newcastle), 34min 29sec; 2, J Turnbull (Leeds), 34:34; 3, S Harris (West London Institute), 35:14. Team: 1, Loughborough, 115pts; 2, Birmingham 240; 3, Newcastle, 159. Women (2½ miles): 1, C Boxer (Loughborough), 14:18; 2, M Samy (Bath), 14:33; 3, J London (Edinburgh), 14:53. Team: 1, Loughborough, 22; 2, Edinburgh 32; 3, Cambridge 36.

Athletics

APELDOORN (Netherlands): Marathon (Netherlands unless stated): 1, S Lambourne (GB), 2hr 20min 58sec; 2, Sirik, 2:22.21; 3, De Kimpe (Belgium), 2:24.32; 4, Smit, 2:25.22; 5, Verberne, 2:26.31; 6, Frense, 2:26.38.

Rowing

MOLESEY: Molesey Head of the River: Veteran "B": Quintin. Veteran "C": Marlow. Veteran "D": London. Veteran "E": Kingston.

Boxing

PANAMA CITY: WBC light flyweight title: A Urrua (Mexico) beat H Zapata (Panama), KO, 2nd rnd.

Snooker

BATLEY: Yamaha Organs tournament, qualifying section: J Virgo beat D Martin, 2—1; J Johnson beat J Spencer 2—1; K Stevens beat R Edmonds, 2—0; Edmonds beat D Reynolds, 2—0; Reynolds beat T Knowles, 2—1.

Cricket

McDONALD'S CUP: semi-finals: At Perth: New South Wales 215 for 5 (J Dyson 101, McCosker 67, T Alderman 3—30) beat Western Australia 186 (B Laird 56, T Chappell 4—35) by 29 runs. At Brisbane: Queensland 233 for 8 (W Broad 59, A Border 51; I Callen, 4—47) beat Victoria 217 for 7 (J Wiener 79, J Scholes 60, J Thomson, 3—34) by 21 runs.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	165	280	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	0
Excellent skiing on all slopes							
Courmayeur	130	250	*Good*	*Varied*	*Fair*	*Fine*	4
Excellent skiing high slopes							
Grindelwald	25	110	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	4
Fine off-piste crust							
Isola 2000	130	170	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine	6
Regional holiday beginning							
La Plagne	165	220	Good	Crust	Good	—	-3
A few bare patches							
Mürren	90	160	Good	Slush	Good	Fine	4
Good skiing on all pistes							
Tignes	230	300	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	4
Grande Motte glacier open							
Zermatt	75	135	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	0
Worn patches on lower slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lowers slopes and U to upper slopes.

Recruitment Opportunities

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STEVE MILLS (REC. CONS.)

MARKETING PA
£6,250 + PERKS International London based Co moving to Taplow Windsor Sept. seeks exp. secretary. Age 25+ with 90 s.h. 50 typ., good organising ability, diplomacy and able to liaise at all levels. Details call 499 9274
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GREEN PARK. Large International Co. needs confident, mature Sec. with good skills for Asst. Co. Sec. 20+. C. £6,200. 01-730 5148. Jaygar Careers Consultants.

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YOUNG PROPERTY dealer requires sec./asst. Sec. See Appts.

continued on page 20

PUBLIC NOTICES

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL NOTICE
THE HINCHLIFFE SCHOLARSHIPS
An application has been made to the Secretary of State for Education and Science for an Order under Section 78 of the SEX DISCRIMINATION ACT 1975 which would modify the trust instruments relating to the above funds so as to permit (i) female as well as male students to benefit under the provisions contained therein and (ii) so as to reduce from three to two years the minimum period during which such students must have been educated at Westminster. A copy of the proposed Order and of the trust instruments may be inspected at the office of Lee Bolton & Lee, 1 The Sanctuary Westminster, London SW1, during office hours. Any person wishing to make representations to the Secretary of State regarding the proposed Order may do so by sending them to the Legal Branch, Department of Education and Science Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1, quoting reference S427/6047/02 within one month from the date of publication of this notice.

CHARITY COMMISSION
CHARITY OF JOHN MARSHALL.
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. Copies can be obtained from them at 14 Ryder Street, London, SW1Y 6AH (Ref: 306780—A12—L1).

LEGAL NOTICES

To CLIVE ERNEST HOOK
On 3rd November, 1981 upon the motion of Lemorson Holdings (Proprietary) Limited the Supreme Court of South Africa (South-Eastern Cape Local Division) ordered that the order of court and notice of motion in abridged form be served upon you by being published in this newspaper, that copies of the order, notice of motion and supporting affidavits be served on the occupier of 10 Criterion Arcade, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Hampshire and that you file your objection if any to the granting of an order in terms of prayers 1 and 2 of the notice of motion within 45 days of service or publication, whichever is the later. The notice of motion asks that you be called upon to show cause, if any, why the Court should not authorise Erf 1130 Rowallan Park, Port Elizabeth, previously known as Erf 1071 Hunters Retreat, Extension No. 2 to be registered in the name of Lemorson Holdings (Proprietary) Limited, why your R766.58 held in trust should not be used to pay transfer duty and incidental costs, why service and your objection should not take place as set forth above and why further and/or alternative relief should not be granted; and it uses certain affidavits in its support. You may obtain an unabridged copy of the order, notice of motion and supporting affidavits from Barry Posner, Pentol and Company, solicitors, 74/76 Camden Road, London, NW1 9OU. You are hereby called upon to file your said objection (if any) with the registrar of the above Court at Port Elizabeth, South Africa and with Aronson, Abramowitz & Company, attorneys, 201 Main Street, Port Elizabeth, South Africa within the said 45 days.

Commercial property by Gareth David

Record 'To Let' signs but building goes on

Industrial development and activity is continuing despite rising vacancy rates — factories and warehouse buildings standing empty with King & Co are estimated at a total of 120m sq ft.

According to the latest review of the market from south coast agents L. S. Vail, South Hampshire has the largest total of vacant industrial buildings in memory. Much of the empty property is, however, unsuited for modern industry.

In little over a year the agents report that the amount of empty industrial space available for tenants has grown by about 50 per cent although over the last 18 months the figure jumped by 250 per cent. Vail has 2.25m sq ft of new and second-hand factory and warehouse accommodation on its books while it estimates that the total vacant space in the Solent Corridor is around 3.25m sq ft.

Vail thinks this growth cannot be blamed solely on the recession. Much of the space was in the pipeline 18 months ago and the bulge followed the allocation of more industrial land in the South Hampshire Structure Plan. Even so, the agents claim, there are areas of relative shortages and high demand.

At the top end of the market investment yields remained virtually unchanged but the definition narrowed to the point where it applies only to freehold property let at full rental value on an institutional lease incorporating upward only rent review.

There is an apparent anomaly that the only sector where yields have fallen has been on prime retail property at a time when consumer spending is at a very depressed level. This reflects the scarcity of prime high street pitches and the physical and planning restrictions which prevent the expansion of many high streets.

The weight of institutional money overhanging the property market is a major factor in its stability, the brokers say. It is a cyclical market, they point out, and while short-term prospects of rental growth are generally discouraging its longer-term growth is far more impressive.

Between mid-1977 and mid-1981 they estimate that prime shop rents rose by 19.75 per cent a year, prime offices by 14.75 per cent and prime industrial and warehousing by 12.4 per cent.

One area experiencing continuing demand for office accommodation is the City of London, particularly in the EC3 banking/insurance area, and this should push the highest rents from the present £27 per sq ft to around £30 per sq ft by the end of the year, according to estate agents Richard Ellis.

Demand had stabilized over the past 18 months at about 500,000-600,000 sq ft per quarter but this should pick up by the second half of the year with total take-up in 1982 of around 2½-2¾ sq ft.

Banks are expected to occupy the majority of this space, the Ellis report says, with the short term weakness in the North American insurance market likely to depress demand from that sector.

The supply of new space coming onto the market is unlikely to fall below 3-3¼m sq ft during the current year of which a third will be in new developments. Of the total of 1.2m sq ft of speculative development due to be completed in the City this year, 400,000 sq ft has been pre-let.

"There is an urgent need for good quality and new industrial development of greater flexibility which will meet the increasingly sophisticated requirements of high technology industry", say the agents.

Vail feels that there must be a greater move towards the science park concept of industrial development which leans towards low density and high landscaping qualities where units contain a higher proportion of office content.

Already, there are moves in this direction. Plans for the area's first science park have been laid by Windover Projects, who are proposing a £6m scheme in a 47-acre wooded site, to the west of junction 8 of the M27. The development would provide jobs for 1,500 people.

Southampton University wants to develop a 20-acre site at Chilworth Manor with as many as 14 research and development units.

Yet the agents warn against too much Ministry of Defence land finding its way to the market in the wake of the run-down of the Naval Dockyards at Portsmouth. Vail reports that although Portsea Island has suffered from land starvation for years, there is now an adequate supply of serviced industrial land.

A spin-off from the present glut of industrial property in the Solent area is that it has persuaded many previously intractable institutional landlords to be more flexible in their attitude to prospective tenants.

□ The property market in France has remained relatively stable in spite of the radical changes promised by the ruling socialist/communist coalition, according to the Paris Office of estate agents Weatherall Green & Smith.

There is a strong institutional market so the property market is well equipped to cope with legislative changes, the agents' report says. One of the first changes will be the introduction of a wealth tax which could switch predominance in the retail sector to institutions as private investors are encouraged to sell.

As a result of the elections many institutional investors withdrew from the market altogether while others dramatically reduced their commitments. Most purchases since the election have been up to Fr 10m (£100,000), often in the form of office suites rather than major development schemes.

As far as larger office investments are concerned, Weatherall say a number of French pension funds which have in the past held only a small percentage of office buildings in their portfolio, are likely to remain prominent in the market unless steps are taken by the Government to limit their tax advantages.

The letting market for Paris offices has suffered an acute shortage of large centrally-located space, the report says, with the result that the established bracket of rents is between Fr 1,000 and Fr 1,600 sq metre per annum.

In the suburbs, particularly La Defense which is the main office area west of Paris, most new buildings are pre-let as a result of negotiations which took place in the last two years. One of the few major projects in the central area is the Elysses 26 development where the rents agreed of Fr 1,900 sq metre are the highest recorded in Paris.

LEGAL NOTICES

No 003738 of 1981
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE, CHANCERY DIVISION, COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF LIBRA (MARKETING) LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

TAKE NOTICE that the Court has appointed Thursday the 18th day of February 1982 at 2.00 o'clock in the afternoon at Room 301, Third Floor, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2 as the time and place for the consideration of the results of the Meetings of CREDITORS and CONTRIBUTORIES and for deciding differences therein, and for making such order or appointments thereon as to the Court shall appear necessary and advisable. Any Creditor or Contributory is entitled to be heard.

G. B. GILLVRAY
OFFICIAL RECEIVER AND PROVISIONAL LIQUIDATOR

Re: ALAN FISCHELIS LIMITED (In Voluntary Liquidation) and the COMPANIES ACT, 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before Friday, 12th March, 1982 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the undersigned Ian Peter Phillips, F.C.A. of Bernard Phillips & Co. at New Cavendish House, 18 Maltravers Street, London, WC2R 3EJ, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 29th day of January, 1982.

IAN PETER PHILLIPS, F.C.A.
LIQUIDATOR

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COMPANY MEETING NOTICES

GESTETNER HOLDINGS LIMITED

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held at 10.00 a.m. on 2nd March 1982 at Gestetner House, 210 Euston Road, London NW1 for the purposes of:

1 receiving and adopting the report and accounts
2 declaring the final dividends recommended in the directors' report
3 re-appointing Deloitte Haskins & Sells as auditors of the company until the conclusion of its next annual general meeting and authorising the directors to fix their remuneration
4 re-electing to the board Mr. A. E. Singer, who retires by rotation

AND, as special business, considering and if thought fit passing the following:

as an Ordinary Resolution, special notice having been given pursuant to sections 142 and 185(5) of the Companies Act 1948.

5 THAT Mrs. H. Gestetner, O.B.E., who has attained the age of 70 years be and is hereby re-elected a director of the company

as Special Resolutions:

6 THAT the 'A' Ordinary Shares and the 'A' Ordinary Capital Shares in the capital of the company be and are hereby re-designated as 'A' Ordinary (non-voting) Shares and 'A' Ordinary (non-voting) Capital Shares respectively
7 THAT the Articles of Association of the company be and are hereby amended by the substitution of 'A' Ordinary (non-voting) Shares for 'A' Ordinary Shares and 'A' Ordinary (non-voting) Capital Shares for 'A' Ordinary Capital Shares wherever those expressions appear
8 THAT the Articles of Association of the company be and are hereby amended by the substitution in article 85 of '£6,000' for '£4,000'

as an Ordinary Resolution:

9 THAT the directors be and they are hereby generally and unconditionally authorised for the purposes of the Articles of Association of the company and of Section 14 of the Companies Act 1980 (referred to in this resolution as "the Act") and generally to allot relevant securities up to a maximum nominal amount equal to the Unclassified Share Capital of the company unissued at the date hereof, during the period from the date of the passing of this resolution up to and including the fifth anniversary of such date PROVIDED THAT such authority shall allow and enable the company to make an offer or agreement before the expiry of that authority which would or might require relevant securities to be allotted after such expiry.

Holders of share warrants to bearer who wish to attend or be represented at the meeting without warrants should deposit with the company's registrars, Barclays Bank Limited, Registration Department, Radbroke Hall, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 9EU, not later than seventy-two hours before the meeting, the certificate of a Banker, Solicitor or Stockbroker that such warrants are held to the order of the registrars.

A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and vote for him. A proxy need not be a member of the company. To be effective, such proxies must be received by the registrars not less than forty-eight hours before the time fixed for the meeting. Appointment of a proxy will not prevent a member from attending and voting in person.

Directors' contracts are available for inspection at the registered office until the date of the meeting and at the place of the meeting from 9.45 a.m. until its conclusion.

41 Fawley Road
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28th January 1982

By order of the board
J. A. BARNETT
Secretary

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

". . . THE LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God."—Psalm 14: 2.

BIRTHS

BRANTLY.—On February 4, in Rio de Janeiro, to Rhona (nee Hanbury) and Jeffrey—a son.
CHERRY.—On January 26, to Eva and Robin—a son (Robert).
HITCHINS.—On February 4, at St Luke's, Guildford, to Susan and Graham — a son (Thomas Henry).
LAING.—On Friday, February 5, to Jane and Murdoch—a daughter (Caitlin Alice).
LETHBRIDGE.—On February 2, to Gilly (nee Maxwell-Hyslop) and Mark—a son (Benjamin Maxwell), brother to Emily.
O'CONNELL.—On February 5, at home, to Diana (nee Newbery) and Brian—a daughter (Mary Constance Joan).
PORRITT.—On February 2, at St Thomas's Hospital, to Jane and Richard—a daughter (Katherine) a sister for Samuel.

BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY KIRSTY. I love you. Bean Sudant.

DEATHS

BOLAND.—On February 1st, 1982 in Dublin, Hannah Boland, widow of Daniel Boland, M.B.E. Greatly loved by her son John, daughter-in-law Ann, relatives and friends. Laid to rest at Dean's Grange. "Is Mise an t-Alseirí agus an Bheatha."
CATCHPOLE.—On Wednesday, 3rd February, very suddenly, William Marcus (Mark) of London, SW7 and late of British Petroleum, aged 71, beloved husband of Joyce, father of Timothy and Giles and a devoted grandfather. Funeral service at Holy Trinity, Brompton, Wednesday, 10th February at 10.30 a.m. Followed by private cremation. Family flowers only.
EDWARDS, JOHN TREVOR.—On January 22nd, 1982, of Allerton Ct., Allerton Rd., Liverpool 18, aged 81 years. Dear husband of Ysevlt and father of Catherine. Cremation took place in Liverpool.
LANE.—On February 1st, 1982, in Woodbridge very suddenly, Jim Lane, much loved husband of Mary and devoted father of Ann. Service at Christ Church, Chorleywood, Wednesday, February 10th at 3.30 p.m. Flowers to Peddie's Funeral Services, Rickmansworth.
PAUL.—On Thursday 4th February, suddenly, Col William Balfour Paul TD, of St Anns, Brechin, Angus, beloved husband of Betty. Private family cremation. No letters please.
RIPPON.—On February 3rd 1982, after a long illness, Margaret Mary Rippon, of The Rookery, Lillington, Sussex, in her 69th year, dearly loved sister to David. Funeral private.

MEMORIAL SERVICE
BRENNINKMEYER GOCKEL, ANNA.—A requiem Mass for the repose of her soul will be celebrated at the Jesuit Church, Farm St, W1, on Wednesday 10th February at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM

CROMPTON, PHILIPP RICHARDSON, D.F.C. & Bar, M.A. (Oxon).—Died 7th February 1981. In memory of a most beloved man Gwyneth, Victoria, Nicholas, William and Tom.
KNOWLING.—In ever-loving memory of Ellen, wife of the Rev. Dr. Knowling, Canon of Durham, Feb 8 1914.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

GIBBS-SMITH.—Charles Harvard. Mrs Lavina Gibbs-Smith would like here to greet and thank all friends who attended the Memorial Service for her husband, Charles, at St Augustines Church, South Kensington on Thursday the 4th February.

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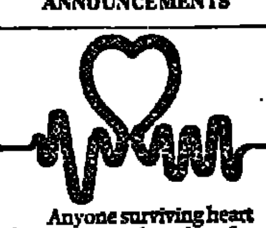
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SWISS COTTAGE.—2 bed. house in quiet mews, £150 p.w. neg.; 3 bed. flat, £145 p.w. H.S.M. Management, 263 7484.
HYDE PARK (nr.).—Bright, spacious flat, 4 rms., k. & b. Long or short let. Tel., c.h. £85 p.w. 733 9509.
ACADEMICS visiting. We have furnished flats near the British Museum and University. Helen Watson and Co. 580 6275.
CHELSEA.—Spacious basement flat. Two double beds., recept., separate dining area, k. & b., c.h., h.w. and colour TV inclusive. £125 p.w. 584 4270 day. 352 5197 evening.

Cutlass
We do not claim to be magicians, we do try harder to find good tenants for good properties. If you wish to let a flat or house in London, please telephone us to discuss your requirements. We have long-established contacts with many banks, companies and embassies and we need good properties for responsible applicants.
Cutlass & Co., 01-589 5247

HAMILTON TERRACE
ST JOHN'S WOOD, NW8
3 newly modernised and converted flats in this magnificent period house in the Heart of the Wood. **GROUND FLOOR** 2 beds, 2 recept, fully fitted kit, 1 bath. Gas CH, terrace. £190 pw neg. **1st FLOOR** 2 beds, 1 dble recept, bright eat-in kit, 1 bath, gas CH, balcony. £190 pw neg.
GARDEN FLAT
3 beds, 1 dble recept, open plan kitchen/diner, 2 baths, gas CH. French windows opening on to patio & splendid garden with sole use. £300 pw furn/unfur.
Brian Lack
Rental Specialists
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SERVICES

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF FLORENCE
Welcomes you to study in Florence. Italian Language courses at all levels (including GCE "A" Level). Drawing and Water-Colouring courses. Lectures on Italian Renaissance. Accommodation arranged if required. 20% discount on winter language tuition. Write to: David Rundle, The British Institute, Lungarno Guicciardini 9, Florence. Tel: (055) 284031.

RENTALS

LIPFRIEND & CO.

HIGHGATE. 3 bedrm hse. 2 recepts. 2 bath plus 3 wcs. Superb kitchen, morning rm. Gdn. £300.
WIMPOLE ST. 3 bedrm. 2 bath. 2 recept apartment. Luxury kit/break rm. Newly dec. part furn. C.H. inc. £265.
PARSONS GREEN. 3 bedrm. 2 recept. 2 bath. super kitchen hse. Gas C.H. Patio. close Undgrn. £160.
WEMBLEY. 3 bedrm. 2½ bath hse. 2 recept, kit, utility rm. Gdn. gge. £120.
EALING. Good 2 bedrm flat in block. recept. kit. bath. close Und and shops. £115.
FULHAM. Delightful 2 bedrm hse. Good value. £85.

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ACCOMMODATION FOR COMPANY/VISITORS
HOLLAND PARK. Mews flat with garage: good decorative order and fully equipped: one double bedroom. recep. k. and b. Available for 3-6 months at £110 p.w. Well recommended, please call us at
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HIGHGATE.—Luxury 4/5 bedroom house, 2 bathrooms (1 en suite), guest cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, study, fully fitted kitchen, garden. £300 p.w. Comanbuild, 01-340 8273.

REGENT'S PARK / PRIMROSE HILL. To let attractive, fully furnished garden flat. 3 bedrooms, sitting room, study, kitchen, bath, C.H. £110 p.w.— Tel: 485 5422.

KENSINGTON. — No premium. Interior designed 3 bed, dble recep, kit, 2 baths, unfurn flat. Avail now. Co let only. Palace Properties. 486 8926 to view.

QUALITY HOUSES AND FLATS available and required in North and central London for long and short lets for executives, diplomats and o'seas visitors Comanbuild. 340 8273 or 348 4926.

TWICKENHAM, STRAWBERRY HILL. Close river and Station. Period house, well modernised. 4 bed, bath and sep. shower. Garage. Immed occupation. £185 p.w. Priory, 940 4655.
QUIET sunny Mews house, W1, off Charlotte St. 3 beds, large kitchen, utility, gadgets. Comfortable and convenient. £195 p.w. 01-351 1676.
SW1. Studio 1 and 2 bed flats in luxury serviced block 1 week + from £100 p.w. Allen Bates & Co. 499 1665.
BAKER STREET close. 4 beds, dble recep, kitchen, 1½ bath. 3 months. £150 p.w. No sharers. Also 2 bed at £140 p.w. Allen Bates & Co. 499 1665.
HYDE PARK. Luxury 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 bed flats and houses. Long/short lets. West Trend, 262 6204.
NW3, NW8. Several beautiful flats £140-£265 p.w. for company or embassy lets. State Apartments, 458 8622 or 455 1251.
KNIGHTSBRIDGE. One of London's most exceptional furnished houses ideal for entertaining. 4 beds, 2 recept, 3 baths. £400 p.w. o.n.o. Huntess, 837 7365.
KENSINGTON close to High Street. Spacious 2nd-floor flat with lift, well furnished and decorated throughout, 2 double beds, bath with shower, large through recep with balcony, well fitted kit with w/m. Long let. £128 p.w. Tel. J.W. Ltd, 949 2482.
CADOGAN LANE, SW1. Pretty 2 bed, 1 recep flat. Avail now. £175 p.w. Maskells. 581 2216.
NEW MALDEN. Very attractive, spacious house in quiet residential road. Very close to station (Waterloo 19 minutes) and town centre. Well furnished and dec. 4 beds, large through recep, kit and utility room with most machines, garage and garden. Gas CH. Long let suit family or up to 4 sharing. £95 p.w. Tel. J.W. Ltd. 949 2482.
KENSINGTON HIGH STREET. Superb 5th-floor flat having very spacious accommodation beautifully furnished and decorated throughout: 2 double bedrooms, 2 baths with showers, dressing room, large elegant recep, good sized kit with most machines, lift and porters. Long let. £195 p.w. to include CH and services of a maid. Tel. J.W. Ltd. 949 2482.
VAR.—To let June also first half August, very desirable secluded Provencal villa, fully equipped, domestic help included, large swimming pool. Cannes/St Raphael 40 mins. Sleeps 6. Write Box 1449 G, The Times.
MARBLE ARCH. S/c furn. 3 rooms, k. & b. Suit 2 girls. £25 p.w. each. A. & Co. 203 2745.
MARBLE ARCH. S/c furn. 4 rooms, k. & b. Suit 5 girls. £21 p.w. each. A. & Co. 203 3745.
PIMLICO. Flats available to let to Companies only. Call Hilary at Dauntons. 834 1032.
ST. JOHNS WOOD. Attractive furnished house, ideal entertaining. 2/3 recept., 3/4 beds., 3 baths., cloakroom. Garden. £260 p.w. 624 7170.
HOLLAND PARK.—S/c furn. flat, lounge, double bed., k. & b. £49 p.w. Tel. 727 6681.
SHORT LET, 8 weeks till end of March. Holland Park. 1 bedroom flat. C.H. incl. Co. let pref. £86 p.w. Tel. 727 4680.
SENIOR EXECUTIVE HOMES. Sunningdale, Windlesham, Maidenhead. Quality fully furnished long lets. J.S.C. Services. 03447 2746.
HAMPSTEAD—3 room S/C flat. CH. Married couple. £70. 386 7972.
ATTRACTIVE studio flat nr Marble Arch. £60 p.w. 262 2022.

Anscombe & Ringland
Hampstead.
Superb hse. modernised to an exc standard. 5 beds, 3 baths, 2 receps, lux kit, gdn. £275 pw.
01-435 7122

Chestertons
HOLLAND VILLAS RD, W14
A really lovely spacious garden Flat, very well furnished with antique furniture. 2 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (1 en-suite), dining room, double reception with terrace. Available 1/2 years. Gas CH/CHW. £210 per week.
01-937 7244

RENTALS

GEORGE KNIGHT & PARTNERS

HURLEY, BERKS on the banks of the River Thames is this converted monastry building, built by Benedictine Monks in 1086, surrounded by the original wall & moat. The property retains many historic features including substantial stone walls, oak rafters and Norman arched windows. The accommodation comprises a huge living room (34ft x 26ft), a studio with spiral staircase to a minstrel gallery, kitchen, three bedrooms, three bathrooms and a sauna. Set in six acres with river frontage, boat house, summer house and barn garage for three cars. The property is available at a weekly rental of £225 for a long letting.
9 Heath Street, N.W.3.
01-794 1125

RIDICULOUS WINTER PRICES

Knightsbridge—superb modernisation, brand new one-bedroom flat in p/b block. Elegant furnishings, inclusive C.H. and C.H.W.
ONLY £150 P.W.
AYLESFORD & COMPANY
01-351 2383

NEAR CHELSEA. Elegant furnished house with garden. Parsons Green area, Fulham. 2/3 months. 2 double bedrooms, each with own bath and w.c., Steinway piano, modernised kitchen, domestic help available. £250 p.w. 01-731 0274, anytime.

LARGE FURNISHED SUNNY FLAT. 4 beds., drawing room, shower room and bath, modern kitchen, all machines, security, porterage, lift, C.H., C.H.W., TV, parking. Long let £150 p.w. neg. near Chelsea Bridge. 622 0425.

£150 P.W. KENSINGTON. Delightful 3 bedroom flat in P/B block, beautifully modernised and furnished to a very high standard. Lift, porter, TV. Aylesford & Co. Tel: 01-351 2383.

CHELSEA, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, Belgravia.—Luxury houses and flats available for long or short lets. Please ring for current list. Cootes: 828 8251, 69 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1.

PARSONS GREEN.—Flat for sharers/family, Co.let only. 3 beds., recept., k. & b., oil c.h. £90 p.w. Cabban & Gaselee, 589 5481.

BERKELEY ESTATES offer you a selection of luxury flats and houses for long/short lets, from £100 p.w.—286 7266.

HURLINGHAM, SW6. Superb riverside flat with balcony in immaculate block with lift and porters and enjoying unrivalled river views, furnished and decorated to a very high standard. 3 bedrooms (2 double, 1 single), 2 baths with showers, beautiful large recep. with patio doors on to balcony, kit with all machines. Free parking. Gas CH. 2 mins from Putney Bridge Underground. Long let. £150 p.w. Tel. J.W. Ltd. 949 2482.
NEW MALDEN.—Well equipped 3 bed. neo-Georgian town house with garage and south facing garden, close station. £100 p.w. Andrews Letting and Management 486 7966.
CLAREVILLE GROVE, S.W.7. — Extremely attractive maisonette, large living room, good kitchen, 2 dble bedrooms, balcony. Avail now. £175 p.w. 186 Sloane St, S.W.1. 235 6155.
ENNISMORE GDNS, S.W.7.—Large raised ground floor flat. Huge recept. 2 dble bedrooms, fully fitted kitchen. £250 p.w. 186 Sloane St. S.W.1. 235 6155.
N.W.2.—2 fine furn s/c ground floor flat, 1 and 2 bedrooms respectively. C.H., gdn, parking. £63.50 & £70 p.w. 6-12 mths. 904 7188.
IMMACULATE Chelsea lux flat, 3 rms, k. & b., w.c., generously furnished / equipped washing machine, T.V., gdn. £135 p.w. Gge avail. 352 6679.
REGENTS PARK.—House, 4 beds, 2 baths, 3 recepts, immaculate order. £285 p.w. Crouch & Lees 499 9981.
BARNES. S/c furn flat in private road. Sitting room, single bedroom, k & b, C.H., good transport, non-smoker. £60 p.w. 788 4654.
18TH CENTURY, half-timbered cottage, 200 yds. Wimbledon Commons, shops and bus, 2 beds, living/dining room, mod bath and kit. Free parking, dble glazed. £95 p.w. 01-946 0706.
MEWS COTTAGE, Regent's Pk.— 3 dble beds, newly decorated, parking. Refs essential. £130 p.w. 402 6290.
ST JOHN'S WOOD.—Luxury 2 bed flat in prestige block, 24hr Porter, lift, machines etc etc. Must let at £150 p.w. inc. Long let. Globe Apartments. 935 9512, 24hr.
CLAYTON BENNETT HEYCOCK of 40 Beauchamp Place, S.W.3 will help you find or let your flat or house. Please ring 584 6863.
ST JOHN'S WOOD, N.W.8.—2 room luxury flat in block, porter, min. 6 months, £85 p.w. Tel.: 01-722 4144 after 5 p.m.
EAST FINCHLEY.—Newly converted 2 bed flat close station and shops. £85 p.w. Phone H H M Stevenage 67891.
SLOANE SQUARE.— Luxury 3 beds, lounge/diner k&b, £260 p.w. Brandons, Marlow (06284) 73344.
KINGSTON.—Furnished or unfurnished spacious Victorian villa, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, exceptional value. £125 p.w. Andrews Letting and Management, 486 7967.
CHELSEA. Serviced apartments min/month from £100 p.w. individually furnished with 24 hr. porterage, maid, TV, phone and Telex.—Ring: Letting Office, Nell Gwynn House. 01-584 8317.
LUXURY bachelor/studio flat, Putney. Mod block, full furn, lift, porter, col. TV, C.H., 2 mins rail/tube. Parking. £75 per week. Tel: 789 6758.
ST JOHN'S WOOD.—Luxury 3 bedroom, superb reception, American kitchen, 3 baths. £230 p.w.
BAKER ST.—Elegant 3 bedroom, large recep, kitchen, 1½ baths. £200 p.w. Enhanced Properties, 734 2202.

PROPERTY SERVICES
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WEST SUSSEX
Substantial 7 bedroom farmhouse and staff cottage standing in 3½ acres. Swimming pool, hard tennis court, and Pony paddock. Convenient for Goodwood and Cowdray. £1,050 p.c.m.
Telephone 0428 5124/2

MALVERNS RENTALS
KYNANCE MEWS, SW7. Enchanting cottage, 1 dble. bed., recep., kitchen/diner, bath, garage. £100 p.w.
OLD MANOR YARD, SW5. Immac. house. 2 bed., recep., k. & b., garage. £100 p.w.
ADDISON RD., W14. 5 bed. maisonette. £275 p.w.
Also many short lets now available.
589 8122

FLAT SHARING

S.W.5. 3 P to share 1 hse. own rooms. 373 4301. 7 p.m.
PROFESSIONAL GRADUATE. Own room mixed house, E.15. City 25 minutes. Mod cons. £60 pcm. 519 3634, after 6.
W.5. Young prof person, for lux hse. Own room. £120 pcm excl. 743 6321, 567 8800.
WESTBOURNE TERRACE, W2.— 2nd person m/f to share lux flat, own room. £40 p.w. 351 4232 day, after 6 pm 402 3990.
SW15.—Single person to share lux flat off Putney Hill. £30 p.w. 789 1501.
SLOANE SQ.—Nr. luxury house, own room. £38 p.w. 730 9492.
CLAPHAM.—Own room, c.h. house, piano. £125 p.c.m. excl. 225 8273 after 6 pm.
W8.—Own room. £40 p.w. lux flat. 930 9515 or eves 937 4504.
PRACTICAL MALE, mid 20s + with tool box and Black and Decker drill for large c.h. mixed house in Clapham. £35 p.w. payable monthly. Tel. 675 2819 after 6 pm.
CHELSEA.—Sunny room, till July. £115 p.c.m. + bills. 352 6535.
2 GIRLS to share large room in beautiful house. SW6. £30 p.w. each incl. 486 7122 ext 71.
CHELSEA, 2nd person. Own room. Super flat. £35 p.w. 351 0432 (eves).
TULSE HILL/STREATHAM.—Prof. girl to share lux C.H. flat. Large room nr B.R. and buses. £30 p.w. 671 1580 after 7 p.m.
S.W.18. Comfy room. Bath, use of kitchen. £30 p.w. or £130 p.c.m. 870 1520.
WEST HAMPSTEAD. Room to let in large flat. CH, own col. TV. £40 incl. Tel. evenings 435 5650.
WANDSWORTH COMMON. Mature professional, own large room & bath. Excellent communications Victoria/Waterloo. £35 p.w. incl. 673 8187.
SPACIOUS Georgian house, S.E.5. Grad. own room. £130 p.c.m. 703 0358 (eves.).
S.W.6. Girl, room in family house. £30 p.w. 731 0180.
ST MARGARET'S, TWICKENHAM. Share flat. £100 p.c.m. + bills. Phone 01-891 0302.
CHOICE OF ROOMS to let in open house in W11. Nr. tube, bus and Portobello. Chris, 229 0608 (eves), 636 1794 (day).
CHELSEA. Lux flat, girl share room. £25 pw. 01-221 0533 (office), 01-351 3734 eves. J. Allen.
WANDSWORTH, S.W.18.—Room & own bath available in family hse, meals by neg. Very comfortable, all linen supplied. £35 p.w. Tel. 01-874 4147 after 7 p.m.
FLATMATES.—313 Brompton Rd, Selective sharing 589 3491.
SHARE-A-FLAT for professionals. 175 Piccadilly, 493 1265.
W.6. Pro., female, share pleasant house with 3 others. Own room. CH, garden. £27 p.w. excl.—01-743 4260 pm.
CHELSEA.—Large serviced room in good flat available weekdays, col. TV, CH. £30 p.w. incl.—352 3704.
HOLLAND PK.—Girl, own room, £25 p.w.—221 5088 eves.
ST. JOHN'S WOOD, close tube. Single bedsit. for prof. male in lux. CH flat. £45 p.w. incl. breakfast.—Box No. 1150 G, The Times.
FINCHLEY CENTRAL.—Furnished room to let in luxury flat to female. £30 p.w.—222 4424, 9.30-6.30.
PROF. NON SMOKER, own room, lux. S.W.9 house. £130 p.m. —733 8393.
HIGHGATE. Girl graduate, own room, £63 p.c.m.—263 1543.
THREE places in lux house, Wandsworth. 1 single, 1 dble; £104 p.p. p.c.m.—386 4838 eves.
SW6. Own room in 2-room flat. C.H. £30 p.w. incl. 373 9924.
TWO bedrooms avail. Holland Park flat. £25 and £28 incl. 045 423 310 eves.
RICHMOND. Prof girl, late 20's, share lux cottage. Own room. £120 p.c.m. incl. Tel: 948 0267 after 6.30.
PROF. PERSON to share lux house in Ealing. Own room, garage, garden and domestic help. £45 p.w. excl. of bills. Refs required. Call 992 1595 a.m.
SW4. 2nd person, lux flat. £35 p.w. excl.—675 0984 (eves).
MORTLAKE. Two prof. people for own rooms in friendly mixed hse. £28 p.w. excl. gdn. machines. C.H., Col TV.—876 2041.
FLATSHARE.—213 Piccadilly. 734 0318. Professional people.
WEST DULWICH. Large, well-furn. single room, suit prof woman. Car park avail. Nr buses and British Rail. £80 p.c.m.—670 5445.
PUTNEY. Own room in house, m/f. prof. 25-35, suit person in London until Easter/early summer. £25 p.w excl.—870 1194 after 7.

SITUATIONS WANTED

EX-CHIEF SURVEYOR, M.C.I.O.B. of medium-size building company, seeks similar position with contractor/sub contractor in South London/Surrey area. Tel: 01-337 8033.
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£10,350
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BEETLE conv., '70, l/h, superb. £1,950, 228 7766.

LONDON FLATS

SUSSEX GARDENS, W2.—Studio —sep. kit. & bath—93 year lease. £27,000.—Mr J. Partridge, day 262 5077, night, 402 1837.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN

£150,000/£200,000 cash offered house, 4 to 6 beds, Herts, 25 mls London. Sheriff office, 229 6800 before 10th Feb.

OVERSEAS PROPERTIES

Readers are strongly advised to seek legal advice before parting with any money or signing any agreement to acquire land or property overseas.

USA, PALM SPRINGS. — Playground of Presidents, Stars and ordinary people. Golf course fairway, 3 br. 2 ba. house, tennis complex, spa and pool. Trade time for comparable European or English countryside residence. Also avail. for poss. purchase this and comparables. Write 326 Sierra Madre South, Palm Desert, CA, USA 92260, or phone 714/337 8461.
SARASOTA, FLORIDA.—Condominium 2 bedroom, 2 baths. On Sarasota Bay, next to Cultural Centre. Every luxury. Excellent price.—Inquiries made to: Alan Underberg, Attorney, 1800 Lincoln First Tower, Rochester, New York, 14604. USA.
HOTEL ON THE SEA for sale or rent. Fully furnished. 2,500 sq.m., with bar, restaurant, air conditioned. Completed 1980. Ideal location Peloponissos and Saronic Gulf Islands. Skalkos S.A., Epaminonda & Tirteou, Glyfada, Athens, Greece. Tel. 8940827.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

AMERICAN couple have immediate need, permanent full charge mature nanny/housekeeper. Small home. Girl 18 months. Driver's licence preferred. Details: Mrs Nicole Kasper, 440 Calle Miramar, Redondo Beach, California 90277.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

BUTLER
A fully experienced Butler is required for the official residence of the Australian High Commissioner in London. Duties will include supervision of other staff, serving at table, valet service, etc. Salary £110 per week net, live-in; £132 per week net, live-out. 4 weeks holiday per year.
Initial application should be made by telephone to:
The Recruitment Officer,
Australian High Commission,
Strand, London WC2.
Telephone: 01-438 8167

FAMOUS and recommended undiscovered restaurant, Durham City, needs an inspired Chef/Cook with experience and flair to take full charge of a busy open plan kitchen preparing good food for this busy daytime service. Appropriate salary by agreement. Please write in the first instance to: Penelope Milburn, The Old Rectory, Whitfield, Hexham, Northumberland

CITY AU PAIRS provide first class jobs: staff and service: UK and Europe. 104A Gloucester Rd, London, S.W.7. Tel. 01-373 4853-4.
EXPERIENCED NANNY needed immediately to care for three girls, 5½, 2, and 8 months. We are a vegetarian family and our home is in the Oxfordshire countryside. You will have your own self-contained flat with TV and be required to do nursery duties only. Non-smoker, driver essential. Good salary. Please contact Checkendon 680778.
PARIS, £70 weekly for nanny, 1 child. Some travel. Frs Consultants. Tel. Aldershot 315569.

EDUCATIONAL

CHEMISTRY GRADUATE
London Tutorial School seeks enthusiastic graduate to run seminars in "A" level chemistry. Start March. Telephone: 01-584 9029 for application.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENT

The Country Landowners' Association.
Appointment of Regional Secretary, Kent/Sussex
The Country Landowners' Association requires a Regional Secretary for the counties of Kent, East and West Sussex, to take post initially early in May 1982. Candidates, not over the age of 65, are expected to be of high calibre with sound administrative ability, abundant energy, with some knowledge of farming and country life and a wide interest in public affairs. Appointment is whole-time and successful candidate must reside within the area.
For particulars and application form write to The Secretary, (RSKS), CLA, 16 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PQ. No interviews prior to submission of formal written application. No telephone calls, please.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Cambridge
REFLECTION SEISMOLOGISTS
British Institutions Reflection Profiling Syndicate core group at Department Earth Sciences has two vacancies in salary range £6,475, age 25, to £12,860, age 40. BIRPS is funded by Natural Environment Research Council at least until 31 March 1985 to investigate the crustal structure of the UK down to the Moho.
Applications plus c.v. as soon as possible to Dr D. H. Matthews, Bullard Laboratories, Department of Earth Sciences, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EZ.

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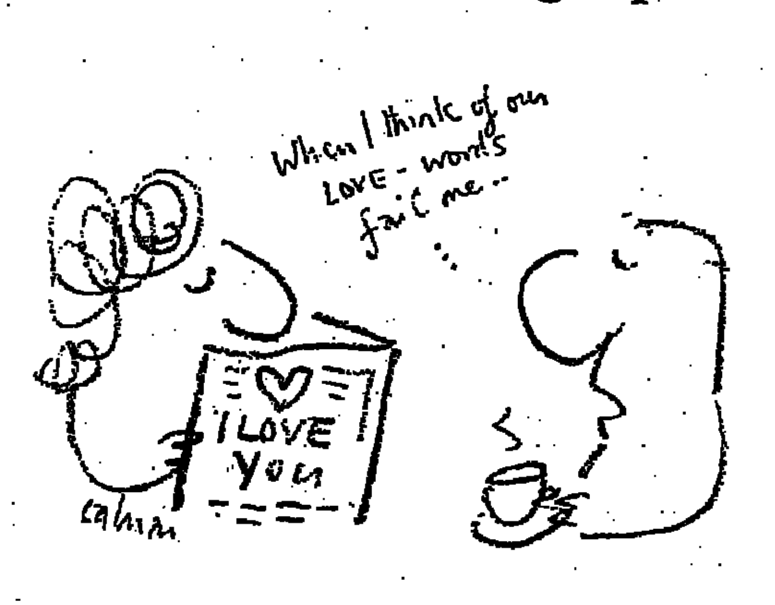
LONG TERM temporary assignment in S.W.1. Shorthand, audio and switchboard required. Start Monday, 15th Feb. Aged 35-45. Please call regarding this and other temporary jobs. New Horizons (Rec. Con.) 499 9192.

URGENT. Start today. Shorthand secretaries needed for bookings SW3, W1. Good speeds. Ring Sally at Brompton Bureau. 584 9984.

JOIN COVENT GARDEN for interesting bookings in Publishing, Current Affairs, Professional, World and Non-Commercial. We need you now. Please ring today. Covent Garden Bureau, 53 Fleet St., E.C.4. 01-353 7696.
GRADUATE (preferably in English) with an outgoing personality and some typing ability wanted to work on a 10-month temporary project of a literary nature. Please contact Joanna Selick on 493 8080.

continued from page 19

This year, be sure your heart's in the right place



For Valentine's Day The Times could print a personal message for you, to the one of your choice.* Just complete the coupon and write your message on a separate piece of paper and send it together with a cheque or postal order to the address written below by 9th February.
UK readers only: Included in the price of £12.75 for 3 lines (minimum) and each additional line £3.25. A beautiful orchid will be sent to your loved one informing them of your message in The Times.
Overseas readers: As we are unable to send your loved one an orchid or notification, the cost to you is only £3.25 per line, minimum 3 lines.
** To be printed on Saturday, February 13.*

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Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to: Times Newspapers Limited. Return to: The Times, Valentine's Day Messages, Room F215, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ
* A line is 28 characters including word spaces.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

9.08 For Schools, Colleges: Going to Work 9.33 A Good Job with prospects 10.00 You and Me. For the very young (not Schools) 10.15 Music Time 10.38 History 11.00 Modern travelling and the hopes for the future 11.23 Talkabout 11.42 The writing of the TV serial, Tenko 12.07 Closedown 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial Report followed by news headlines with subtitles) 1.00 Pebble Mill at One sees the launch of British Sausage Week and hears from Frank Delaney about the world of books 1.45 Camberwick Green. A See-Saw programme for the very young (r) 2.01 For Schools, Colleges: Words and pictures 2.18 Detailed drawings of flora and fauna 2.40 Out of the Past. Charles Dickens 3.00 Delia Smith's Cookery Course. Lesson six: Pasta and Pancakes (r) 3.25 See Hear! A magazine programme for the hearing impaired 3.53 Regional news (not London).

3.55 **Play School.** For the under fives (shown earlier on, BBC 2).
4.20 **Cartoon:** Winsome Witch in Little Big League (r).
4.25 **Jackanory.** Rosalind Ayres reads part one of The Secret Garden by Frances Hodson Burnett.
4.40 **Playhouse: Ivan the Ninny.** A traditional Russian tale adapted by Veronica Cecil.
5.05 **John Craven's Newsround.** The latest world news for young people.
5.10 **Blue Peter.** Sarah Greene with make-your-own Valentine card hints and Simon Groom reports from the Tudor battleship, Mary Rose.
5.40 **News with Richard Baker** 6.00 South East at Six 6.25 Nationwide.
6.55 *Dr Who.* Peter Davison in part three of Kinda.
7.20 **The Rockford Files.** Private detective Jim Rockford goes to Las Vegas to deliver an insurance cheque to a rock star (r).
8.10 **Panorama** presented by Robert Kee Richard Lindley with a report on the railway dispute.

9.00 **News** with John Humphrys.
9.25 **Last of the Summer Wine.** Foggy decides that Compo is in need of a new pair of trousers. At the second hand shop he is made to try on a rather tight pair of jeans and Clegg discovers an old metal detector, this latter find opening up a whole new horizon for the indolent trio.
9.55 **Police.** The 'fly on the wall' series continues with the training of recruits for the Thames Valley Constabulary.
10.40 **Film 82.** Glyn Worsnip talks about two new releases from Australia — Winter of Our Dreams and Manganinnie. Mundy Ellis reports from the Manila Film Festival on the premiere of Peter Ustinov's latest film, Under the Sun.
11.10 **Big Jim and the Figaro Club.** The final repeat of the unusual comedy series set in the late Forties and following the fortunes of a gang of builders and their fight with the works manager (r).
11.38 **News headlines.**
11.40 **Speak for Yourself.** Explaining why you are late for work.
12.05 **Weather.**

BBC 2

10.10 **Managing the Micro.** The last of five programmes introduced by Brian Redhead. 10.35 **Speak for Yourself.** How to explain your late arrival at work (r). 11.00 **Play School.** For the under fives. 11.25 **Play it Safe!** Jimmy Savile with advice on shattering glass (r). 11.35 **Write Away.** A guide to everyday writing presented by Barry Took (r). 11.50 Closedown. 2.00 **A Child's Place.** Programme five — Kids and the Welfare State (r). 2.25 **Maths Help.** To 'O' level standard. 2.40 **Other People's Lives.** A Good Friday procession in a Maltese village. 3.05 **The Computer Programme.** The fifth of ten programmes — The New Media. 3.30 **Business Club.** The second of a series on running small businesses.

3.55 **Film: Honky Tonk* (1941)** starring Clark Gable and Lana Turner. A lighthearted western about a con-man and a girl who falls in love with him.
5.40 **Laurel and Hardy in Come Clean* (1931).**
6.00 **Maggie** (r).
6.25 **Mr Smith's Favourite Garden.** Part five — The Shade Border.
6.50 **News with subtitles.**
6.55 **Riverside.** Interestingly presented trends for young people.
7.30 **The Genuine Article.** How to spot fake books.
7.55 **Porridge** Fletcher is training his cellmate for the prison boxing championships (r).
8.25 **Grace Kennedy.** Among the vivacious singer's guests tonight is Rupert Holmes.

9.00 ***Not the Nine O'Clock News.*** The fab four will again be making us laugh nervously and out loud with some more anarchic and wounding wit.
9.25 **Horizon: Notes of a Biology Watcher.** A film showing the work of one of the United States's foremost biologists. The narrator is Peter Wilson.
10.15 **West Country Tales: The Breakdown.** Anita Harris stars as the lady whose car breaks down and is helped by a seemingly charming man.
10.45 **Newsnight.**
11.30 **Tele-Montage.** A cookery lesson from one of the French speaking television networks presented by Marianne Lawrence. Ends at 12.00.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: The Chacma baboons of Africa. 9.47 The nature of change. 10.04 A visit to Hull docks. 10.21 Part five of Macbeth. 10.48 Insight for the hearing impaired. 11.05 How to avoid foot trouble. 11.22 A scythe-making factory in the north of England. 11.39 Health in the United States and Britain. 12.00 **Cockleshell Bay.** For the very young (r). 12.10 **Rainbow.** Learning with puppets. 12.30 **Do It Herself.** Helpful hints for the handywoman. 1.00 **News.** 1.20 **Thames news.** 1.30 **About Britain.** A visit to Barnstaple Fair and showman Arthur Whitelegg. 2.00 **Money-go-Round.** Joan Shenton and Tony Bastable hunt for Britain's dampest house. 2.30 **Film: Strange New World** (1976) starring John Saxon. A made-for-television space fantasy about a trio of scientists held in suspended animation in space for 180 years returning to Earth to find only two areas where there is life.

4.15 **Cartoon:**Dangermouse searches for the kidnapped Penfold.
4.20 **Graham's Ark.** Graham Thornton with advice on stick insects and butterflies.
4.45 **The Book Tower** introduced by Stephen Moore.
5.15 **Mr and Mrs.** Quiz programme between three married couples.
5.45 **News.** 6.00 **Thames news.**
6.25 **Help!** Viv Taylor Gee with news of the Dyslexia Institute.
6.35 **Crossroads.** Adam Chance puts a long awaited proposal to Jill Harvey.
7.00 **Wish You Were Here...?** Chris Kelly takes a package holiday to the Moselle Valley and Judith Chalmers visits the Scottish Highlands. Ed Stewart and his family reach Orlando.
7.30 **Coronation Street.** Fred Gee is embarrassed by a lady visitor.
8.00 **Let There Be Love.** A comedy series based on the courtship of a widow and a former confirmed bachelor.
8.30 **World in Action: Cigarettes and the Tax man.**

9.00 **Hill Street Blues.** Daniel J. Travanti stars as Police Captain Furillo in this black comedy series based in the Hill Street section house. This week the noble Captain is made to look a fool in a courtroom wrangle with his girl friend, public defender Joyce Davenport, and then is faced with a possible outbreak of gang warfare when a young girl, the sister of a member of a gang, is killed by mistake by a rival gang.
10.00 **News.**
10.30 **Film: Revenge** (1971) starring Joan Collins and James Booth. They play a husband and wife who take the law into their own hands after their 10-year-old daughter is murdered on her way home from school. The police originally arrest a seedy recluse who lives in the neighbourhood but have to release him through lack of evidence. Then Mr and Mrs Radford capture him and start doing him all manner of nasty things. Kenneth Griffith plays the unsavoury Seely.
12.10 **Close.** Ian and Jennifer Partridge sing songs with a St Valentine's Day message.

Radio 4



6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Week.
6.30 Today.
8.35 The Week on 4.
8.45 Miles Kington in the BBC Sound Archives.
9.00 News.
9.05 Start the Week with Richard Baker.
10.00 News.
10.02 Money Box.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "Norma" by Jill Norris.
11.00 News.
11.05 Down your Way.
11.50 Poetry Please!
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 Legal, Decent, Honest and Truthful. Comedy series.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: "A Touch of Frost" by R. D Wingfield.
4.35 Back in 10 Minutes. A walk in the Pennines.
4.45 Story Time: "An Old Captivity" by Nevile Shute in 10 parts (1).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather and Programme News.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Just a Minute.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Start the Week.
8.00 The Monday Play: "The Berlin Resurrection" by Anton Gill.†
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.58 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Science Now.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Charmed Lives" by Michael Korda in 10 parts (1).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News and Weather.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Vivaldi, Purcell, Leopold Mozart, Fucik; records.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued): Verdi, Tchaikovsky; records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Berlioz; records.†
10.00 English Organ Music (Recital in Corpus Christi Church, Osmondthorpe, Leeds: William Russell, anon., Samuel Wesley, Michael Berkeley.†
10.40 Haydn on record.†
11.00 York Winds Wind Quintet recital: Franz Danzi, Robert Aitken, Ibert.†
11.35 Reger and Bartok Concert.†



Robert Lang: Radio 4 8.00 pm.

News.
1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert: String Quartet recital direct from St John's, Smith Square, London: Gyorgy Kurtag, Mozart.†
2.00 Matinee Musicale Concert: Rimsky-Korsakov, Sibelius, Hoddinott, Mussorgsky, Tchaikovsky.†
2.50 The Songs of Mussorgsky: Recital.†
3.15 New Records: Vivaldi, Bach, Schubert, Haydn, Stravinsky, Delius.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Aspects of the Blues (series) illustrated talk by Francis Smith (6) "Trains".
7.30 Orlando String Quartet Recital. Part 1: Haydn, Bartok.†
8.20 Reflections of a UK-Caribbean. Talk by James Berry, recent winner of the 1981 National Poetry Competition.
8.45 Concert Part 2: Dvorak.†
9.15 Ulysses: A cantata by Matyas Seiber to words by James Joyce.†
10.15 L'Ecole d'Orphee attrib. Handel; record.†
10.30 Jazz in Britain featuring the Mike Westbrook Orchestra.†
11.00 News.
11.05 Nielsen on record.†

Radio 2

5.00am Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 Gloria Hunniford.† 2.00 Ed Stewart.† 4.00 David Hamilton.† 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Folk on 2.† 9.00 Humphrey Lyttleton.† 10.00 Monday Movie Quiz. 10.30 Star Sound. 11.00 Brian Matthew, from midnight.† 1.00am Truckers' Hour.† 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00pm Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 Stayin' Alive. 8.00 David Jensen. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 midnight Close.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz 463m) at the following times GMT: 6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 7.30 Country style 7.45 Short Story. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The London Bach. 8.30 Musical Memories. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 Notes from An Observer. 9.20 Good Books 9.35 Interlude 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 A Word in Edgeways 10.15 The Instrument Makers. 10.30 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Backtracking 11.30 The Reith Lecturer. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 1.30 Country Style 1.45 James Joyce. 2.15 The End of the Affair. 2.30 Rock Salad 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary 4.15 The Red and the Black. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Europa. 5.25 New Ideas. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary. 9.15 Europa. 9.30 Rock Salad. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 Classical Record Review 11.30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 12.00 World News 12.09 News About Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Radio Theatre 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Europa. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network U.K. 2.30 Sports International 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 John Peel. 4.00 Newsdesk 5.45 The World Today.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO ★ BLACK AND WHITE (r) REPEAT

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz. MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m. VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1

CYMRU/WALES 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales. 1.45-2.01 Pili Pala. 6.00-6.25 Wales today. 6.55-7.20 Heddiw. 7.20-7.45 Campus Gampau. 7.45-8.10 Dr Who. 12.05-12-07 Weatherman. 12.07-12.27 The Sky at Night. 12.27 News and Weather. SCOTLAND 11.00am-11.23 For Schools: Let's See — Messages (3). 12.55-1.00pm Scottish News. 6.00-6.25 Reporting Scotland. 11.10-11.40 Aibisidh. 11.40 News and Weather. NORTHERN IRELAND 12.57-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 6.00-6.25 Scene around Six. 12.05am News and Weather. ENGLAND 6.00-6.25 Regional news magazines. 12.10am Close.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV/West except: 12.00-12.10pm Ffalabalam 4.15-4.20 Mr Magoo 11.00-11.30 World in Action.

CHANNEL

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: All the Way Up (Warren Mitchell). Comedy about self-made man who intends to get to the top. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30-7.00 Two of Us. 10.28 News. 10.35 Ladies Man. 11.05 Golfing Greats: Gary Player. 11.30 Barney Miller. 11.55 Closedown.

ANGLIA

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.30-4.15 Film: Carry on Cabby* (Sidney James, Hattie Jacques). Taxi-owner's neglected wife secretly creates a rival service driven by pretty girls. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge 6.00 About Anglia 6.30-7.00 Survival 10.30 Anglia Reports: Sea defences 11.00 Palace Presents: Aretha Franklin and Franki Valli 12.00 Superstar Profile: Burt Reynolds 12.30 Reflection.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Film: Death Train (Hugh Keayer-Byrne). Man found dead in his garden appears to have been run down by a train . . . 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm 6.00 Scotland Today 6.40-7.00 Crimedesk 10.30 Late Call 10.40 Golfing Greats: Tom Watson 11.10 Film: Cry Terror (Susan Hampshire). Escaped convicts kidnap two women. 12.20 am Closedown.

BORDER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Film: Mind of Mr Soames (Terence Stamp) 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round 5.15-5.45 Bygones 6.00 Lookaround 6.15 Sound Of . . . Wout Steenhuis 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 10.30 Film:Double Kill (Peter Bowles). Mystery about an art collector who leaves his treasures unguarded 11.40 News 11.43 Closedown.

ULSTER

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.30-4.15 Film: Sky West and Crooked (Hayley Mills) Girl shoots a young friend by accident. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 9.00-10.00 Quincy. 10.30 Welcome Back Kotter. 11.00 Face Your Future: Job Search. 11.25 Bedtime, closedown.

GRANADA

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.30-4.15 Film: Penny Gold. (Francesca Annis, James Booth) Two detectives investigate the murder of a young girl. 5.15-5.45 Dick Turpin. 6.00 Mr Merlin. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 9.00-10.00 Quincy. 10.30 Danger UXB. 11.30 City of Angels. 12.30 am Closedown.

HTV WEST

As Thames except: 1.20-1.30 News 2.30-4.15 Film: Passionate Friends*. Ann Todd, Trevor Howard. Ambitious wife meets her lover. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent strokes. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.30 Soap. 12.00 Closedown.

TSW

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: All the Way Up (Warren Mitchell) Comedy about self-made man who intends to get to the top. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 The Two of Us. 10.32 News. 10.35 Ladies' Man. 11.05 Golfing Greats: Gary Player. 11.30 Barney Miller. 11.55 Postscript. 12.01 am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: Trottie True (Jean Kent). Music hall performer falls for a pilot whose balloon drops into her back garden. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 It's a Vet's Life. 9.00-10.00 Quincy. 10.30 There's Life North of Watford. 11.00 Lou Grant. 12.00 Closedown.



Stephen Moore: ITV 4.45pm

CENTRAL

As Thames except: 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: All the Way Up (Warren Mitchell). Comedy about self-made man who intends to get to the top. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.30 Parents and Teenagers. 11—00 News. 11.05 Left, Right and Centre. 11.45 Pans by Night. 12.15 Something Different. 12.30 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As Thames except: Starts 9.25-9.38 First Thing. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30-4.15 Film: Double Bunk* (Ian Carmichael, Janette Scott). Newly weds set up home in a houseboat. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30-7.00 Cause for Concern. 10.30 Film: Barbarella (Jane Fonda). Science fiction fantasy with Barbarella off on holiday. 12.20 News. 12.25 Closedown.

TVS

As Thames except: 1.20-1.30 News. 2.30-4.30 Film: Trottie True (Jean Kent, James Donald). Musical Hall performer falls for the pilot of a balloon that lands in her garden. 5.15 Radio. 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00-7.00 Haircut 100. 10.30 Full Life: Admiral Sir Frank Twiss. 11.00 Film: Appointment With a Killer. Murdered actress is the first assignment for a private detective's wife. 12.25 Company, followed by Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 Good Word. 9.25-930 News. 1.20-1.30 News, Lookaround. 2.30-4.15 Film: Last Shot You Hear* (Hugh Marlowe). Thriller. 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 News. 6.02 Mr and Mrs. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Briefing. 11.15 Lou Grant. 12.10 Poet's Corner. 12.20 Closedown.



Lewis Thomas: BBC2 9.25 pm.

CHOICE

● Horizon brings a new face to the screen in the shape of American biologist and Chancellor of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Lewis Thomas. In NOTES OF A BIOLOGY WATCHER (BBC 2 9.25pm) he propounds, with the aid of some remarkable photography, his theory that the world is shaped by two opposite principles — individuality and togetherness. One of the more remarkable film sequences is explained by Professor Lisbeth Francis of Bates College, Maine. Her forté is the sea anemone and she shows us, with a commentary that would not disgrace Harry Carpenter, two of them battling with one another over territory that can only be described as no anemone's land. Battling Blue crabs, bacteria that only move in a northerly direction and organisms that live in termites — these are only some of the examples used by the personable presenter.

● It would be difficult for anyone who buys their newspaper at the corner shop newsagent or who really reads the adverts in the newspaper to overlook the concerted campaign being waged by the tobacco industry to persuade the Chancellor of the Exchequer not to raise the tax on tobacco. Tonight's World in Action CIGARETTES AND THE TAXMAN (ITV 8.30pm) looks into the reasons why the industry has taken the unprecedented step of spending £600,000 in press advertising and the gathering of smokers' signatures in support of their plea. Traditionally the industry keeps a low profile in the face of criticism from the anti-smoking advocates and stoically accepts the additional taxes that seem to hit them at successive budgets, but against a background of falling sales, job losses and rumblings about televised cigarette-sponsored sport the industry is going on the offensive.

● THE BERLIN RESURRECTION (Radio 4 8.00pm) is a comedy set in a Berlin museum towards the end of the Second World War. Not an obvious setting for a bundle of laughs but Professor von Lowenthal (Robert Lang) is desperately trying to complete a thirty year task before the Allies arrive. This task is the reconstruction of a prehistoric monster, the Brachiosaur. On the day of the unveiling ceremony something unexpected happens leading to a series of comical recriminations.

Entertainments Guide

Classified Guide

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Weekend Shoparound	£14.00 per cm full display (min 5 cms)
Court Circular	£5.00 per line
Box Numbers	£5.00

Power stations at risk if NUM supports Aslef

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The train drivers' pay and productivity dispute, now entering its fifth disruptive week, threatens to affect power supplies as miners' leaders meet to consider tangible support for the striking footplatemen.

Mr Raymond Buckton, general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef), disclosed yesterday that he had renewed his appeal for understanding and help to other TUC-affiliated unions in a fresh round of letters sent at the weekend.

Speaking on London Weekend Television's *Weekend World*, he said: "Other unions are ready, willing and able to help us". Action by miners might put coal supplies to power stations "in jeopardy", he added, saying: "Something has to be done pretty quickly".

Mr Buckton's approach to other unions will be considered by the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers on Thursday, the second day of the latest round of Aslef mid-week walkouts. Miners in Yorkshire are already banning the use of lorries to replace the huge "merry-go-round" trains that take coal from the pits to power stations, and this is expected to become national NUM policy.

Mr Owen Briscoe, secretary of the Yorkshire miners, said last night: "We will have a letter from Ray Buckton, and bearing in mind the support that Aslef gave us in our strikes, we will adopt what is happening in Yorkshire now as national policy".

More support than people realize

The footplatemen's leader insisted yesterday: "There is more support for our case than people realize". There had been messages of support from many trade unionists, including miners, general and municipal workers, electricians, engineers and civil servants, he said. His members were determined "to a man" to continue strike action until they received justice, though this was not just an Aslef fight. "The whole system of industrial relations in this country is in jeopardy," he argued.

By contrast Sir Peter Parker, BR chairman, speaking on the same programme, said that BR had to make the system more efficient to convince the Government that it should put more money into it. "It is terribly important to win this dispute," he said.

Meanwhile Lord McCarthy and his two colleagues attempting to make headway in the work of the inquiry into the dispute, sponsored by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), will meet at Acas headquarters in Westminster today to decide whether to proceed with the investigation.

Lord McCarthy, Mr George Doughty, former engineering union leader, and Mr Ted Choppen, ex-managing director of Esso, have the almost impossible task of producing a report on the dispute in spite of a total boycott by Aslef.

As the train drivers and BR management appear to become even more firmly entrenched in their positions, the other two rail unions are becoming increasingly nervous about the long-term impact of the pay and productivity crisis that has cost the industry an estimated £100m.

No winners at all in this battle

Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said reports of line closures, job losses and the sale of BR assets such as ships and hotels to the private sector as a result of the dispute, came as "no surprise".

The train drivers' strike was leading the industry into a tragic disaster and the jobs of many were at stake. "They (BR) have lost a hunded million. What the hell can you expect them to do? That is the tragedy of this dispute—there are not going to be any winners at all in this battle."

He thought there were wrongs on both sides—"there are six and two threes on this issue", but that did not indicate an unbridgeable gap. The Acas three-man inquiry team ought to meet quickly "and sort both of them out. And they ought to be there".

But Aslef leaders are continuing to boycott the McCarthy initiative on the ground that its terms of reference connect the 3 per cent pay rise due from January 1 with productivity concessions including "flexible rostering".

Mr Buckton yesterday rejected the view that Britain's railways could be permanently closed because of his union's action. Parts of the system would be closed anyway, but the railways as a whole were too important to be closed

BR could lose £80m on freight

Continued from page 1

ate consumption, BR has high hopes that much will still be there to be lifted when the strike ends. But a lot is moving by road, and some of this, together with the general merchandise, could be lost to rail for good.

That poses a direct threat to "commercial railway" investment, like main line electrification, which is based on higher traffic forecasts than now seem likely.

On top of the £20m-£25m already lost, BR fears that another £40m of freight will be lost during the rest of the year, even if the strike ends now, and the total could be £80m if more lost traffic stays with road. That is nearly a fifth of BR's total freight budget already at risk.

On the passenger side, losses at £30m to £35m so far have been higher than for freight, but proportionally less because passenger revenue, at around £1,100 a year, is about twice that of freight.

The passenger business, which was already down before the strike to only about 7 per cent of the country's total, breaks down into about £550m a year for Inter-City, £400m from London and South-east commuters and around £200m from rural and other provincial services.

Of the £8.5m a week traffic loss so far, more than half is thought to be Inter-City (the figures are still going through the computer) and more than a third commuter.

BR is quite confident of winning back nearly all this traffic, but less so of the other provincial services. On Inter-City there is evidence that even now firms are rearranging business meetings to the days when trains are running.

"On those days traffic is good up to about mid-afternoon", BR says, "but we cannot be sure what is happening on other provincial services. This is very worrying. There is an inherent strength in Inter-City that does not apply to them."

Perhaps the worst thing as the dispute enters its fifth week is that BR does not know how to stop it. It is frankly amazed at the apparent solidarity of moderate drivers over the flexible hours which are standard practice in Europe and which BR claims must be introduced now. "Without better trainmen productivity we will not get the business or the new investment, and their jobs will go anyway", a spokesman said.

John Redman

A man with time on his hands

Mr George Daniels, of London, painstakingly examining a pocket watch, which it takes him a year to make. Each part is hand-made to very exacting standards, and this seems to be reflected in the price. A "relatively inexpensive" model would cost around £45,000.

"I make it a point never to discuss prices", he said, "but I do not make them just for the money."

Next year, however, he moves into the "mass-production" market. "I plan to make six similar watches. Each will contain more than 10 years of watch-making and research, and if properly looked after, I will guarantee their accuracy for as long as the materials last—almost forever".

To date, he has completely hand-made just a dozen pocket watches, each with its own individual innovation, such as a rotating escapement to average away all possible errors which may occur in different positions, and all have a needle which shows how much the watch has been wound, and when it needs re-winding.

Mr Daniels, aged 55, came from a poor north London background. However, at the age of five, as his father went to work he would dismantle the alarm-clock on the mantle-piece, and have it back on the shelp working, when his father returned.

Unqualified, Mr Daniels became a watch repairer in 1947. Evening classes in physics and maths, his worst subjects at school, helped him to achieve his Fellowship of the ritish Horological Institute in 1952. He has written extensively on horology and is a specialist consultant for Sotheby's.

Letter from New York

Taxi-dancing is back—at a dollar a time

Anthropologists would have had a field day. Peter West and Judith Chalmers would have been beside themselves. Those who want to see the quickstep elevated to an Olympic sport would have glowed with pride. The ancient (well, 61-year-old) custom of taxi-dancing has returned in style to New York.

Not everyone can say he has danced with a girl, who danced with a man, who danced with a girl, who danced with John Travolta. But on Thursday night at New York's famous Roseland ballroom I foxtrotted with Kathy, aged 26, from Brooklyn. Kathy, an out-of-work dancer, last worked in *Saturday Night Fever* and our dance cost me $1. It lasted three minutes.

Roseland, on Broadway, was famous in the twenties and thirties for its taxi-dancers—girls who, at 10 cents a dance, would help budding Fred Astaires shuffle their way through a samba, a tango or a quickstep (remember? That's the one where you *chassis*). The films and music of the time usually presented taxi-dancing as a rather sad affair, reflected, for example, in the Rodgers and Hart tune of 1930, called *Ten Cents A Dance*.

The tenfold increase in the price of a dance reflects the interruption of 40 years; but other things have changed, too. For a start there are now male taxi-dancers on offer as well. The one I spoke to, Cary, turned out to be from Liverpool and also works as a male stripper. Going back to the girls, Connie, aged 26, in a green flowered frock, pink shoes and string gloves, said she also doubled as a singing waitress at a seafood restaurant in the Bowery—specialising in *Calamari Misto* and *Blue Moon*.

Suzonne, also aged 26, (everybody confessed to 26 though this one must save been pushing 40), said she spoke Russian, played the cello, worked as a business consultant and would soon be appearing off-Broadway in a play. She was at Roseland because she needed the money.

Fighters and sailors and bow-legged tailors
Can pay for their tickets and rent me.
Butchers and barbers and rats from the harbors
Are sweethearts my goodluck has sent me.

Maybe the sadness had something to do with the demise of taxi-dancing after the war. It didn't match the optimism of the times. Maybe the current recession is one of the reasons it is back, revived by Roseland's new owner, Mr Al Ginsberg, a builder from Washington whose appetite for the past is matched only by the size of his cigars.

The dancers receive a tiny wage but may keep all the dollars they earn. And Tony Martell's "orchestra" is obliged to get through 20 numbers every hour, so as to keep up the earning potential of the dancers. There is no chaperone, as there used to be in some of the early dance halls; but you must buy a ticket to exchange for a dance. You cannot hand over cash for legal reasons.

All of which sounds fine on paper—except that the whole venture looks like upsetting Roseland's regulars. You might expect those regulars to be nostalgic and enjoy taxi-dancing. After all, their mean age is closer to 26 written backwards (who else can go dancing at four in the afternoon?). But the truth is that Roseland is no longer simply about dancing, as an enormous plaque on the wall testifies.

Engraved here are the names of every married couple who met at Roseland, starting in 1944, just as taxi-dancing was dying on its feet. There are hundreds of names on the list.

As in Britain, widows in New York outnumber widowers considerably, and across the floor from the bright new hostesses sat row upon row of white haired matrons, all heavily rouged, some in taffeta, one in a long dress. None of them was smiling.

The taxi-dancers are a threat to their search for a new husband (albeit the fourth or fifth in many cases).

Lurleen, originally from Texas, now a sociology student and also 26, was one of the many hostesses who sensed what was going on across the room. We shuffled around in a sort of clinch, trying to avoid getting caught in one of those good, old-fashioned spotlights. "Hell", she said, "I may not stick this. I'm getting a lot of heavy negativity from those old ladies over there."

Only Connie was really happy. The band was playing *Blue Moon*.

Peter Watson

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother attends a reception by the Trustees and Friends of the Tate Gallery before opening the exhibition of paintings by Sir Edwin Landseer, 7.45.

Exhibitions

Tribal Encounters, an exhibition of ethnic objects collected by David Attenborough, Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicester, 10 to 5.30.

Royal Wedding Dress and Presents on display at the Palace of Holyrood House, Edinburgh, 9.30 to 4.30.

Clifford Webb, retrospective exhibition, Leicester Polytechnic, Leicester; 10 to 8.

Work by John Harper; and gum bichromate prints by Paul Brewer; Chapter Gallery, Market Road, Canton, Cardiff, 12 to 10.

Paintings and drawings by Harold Gilman, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Birmingham, 10 to 5.30

Plants of South China, 43 drawings by a Cantonese or Macao artist. Eyre and Hobhouse, 39 Duke Street, St James's, SW1, 10 to 5.30.

Recent work by Basil Beattie, Goldsmith's College Gallery, SW14, 12 to 7.

Retrospect exhibition of new works by Richard Nichols. The Round House, Chalk Farm Road, NW1, 11 to 7.

Talks, lectures

Turner's historical landscapes, by Jennifer Stern, Tate Gallery, 1.

Eadweard Muybridge, the first photographer to capture and demonstrate true movement, by Mrs A. Baker, Heritage Unit, Fairfield West, Kingston-upon-Thames, 1.10.

Shakespeare's use of Narrative, by Barbara Hardy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, EC1, 6.15 to 7.45.

Jongkind, portrait of a great painter, and Open Window; National Gallery, 1.

Continental Celtic art, by David Williams, British Museum, 11.30.

The educational consequences of Norman Tebbit, by Stuart Maclure, Keele University, 8.15.

Music

Piano recital by Philip Pilkington, St Laurence Jewry, Gresham Street, 1.

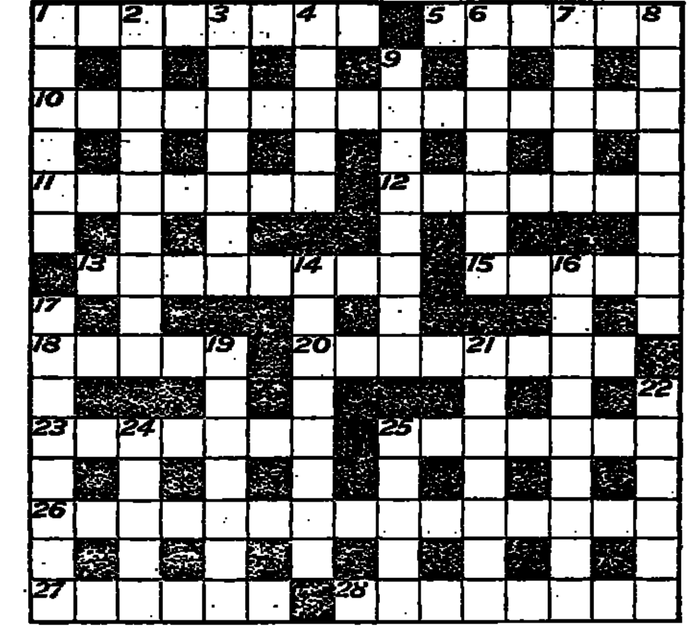
Concert by Northern Sinfonia of England, Newcastle City Hall, Newcastle, 2.

Academy of Ancient Music, chamber recital at Arts Centre Theatre, Warwick University, Warwick, 7.30.

Walks

London's Ghosts, alleys and oddities, meet Embankment Underground, 7.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,750



ACROSS
1 It's growing in the street (8)
5 Capital aphorism after crude return (6).
10 They appear harder-up, going into matches for profit (8-7).
11 Bringing in their catches, fishermen dancing (7).
12 Proscribes those not matrimonially linked? (7).
13 Phaeton's a different sort of carriage (8).
15 In cover, note — and ready to catch the birds (5).
18 Put down or put back. Splendid! (5).
20 Change the panel — don't want a white one (8).
23 Some permit needed for a hen (7).
25 Mount accepts a toffee (7).
26 "——, and good in every thing" (*AYLI*) (7, 2, 6).
27 In costume the union leader showed restraint (6).
28 Secret and elaborate production of Scottish river cloth (4-4).

DOWN
1 Negative evidence herein (6).
2 Make home in primitive surroundings in all seriousness (9).
3 Offence with article describing war (7).
4 African royal drink (5).
6 Marginal note causes trouble about job (7).
7 Clever girl in the Queen's place (5).
8 This story updates Romeo and Juliet (4, 4).
9 Only into be changed — or discarded (8).
14 Public demand — is tax too much? (8).
16 Obsession is a sort of moon-madness (9).
17 Puzzle — stimulant all round suggested (8).
19 Look up and down in the records for flops (7).
21 Difficult to surpass such a car (4-3).
22 Ended and shut up (6).
24 More like Ben Jonson? Not so common (5).
25 You want a boat? Stick around love (5).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 15,749 will appear next Saturday

Auctions today

Christie's, South Kensington: Armonico, Hogwood (Oiseau-colours and drawings, 2: oriental ceramics, 2: pictures, drawings and watercolours, removed from the studio of K Nixon, 5.30. Phillips, Blenheim Street: furniture, carpets, objects, 11: prints, 2. Sotheby's, Bond Street: books, 11.

Viewing

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: silver and plate, 9 to 4; European oil paintings, 9 to 5; watercolours and drawings, 9 to 5. Christie's, King Street: English drawings and watercolours; English and Continental glass; Russian and Greek icons; objects of art, Continental furniture, eastern rugs and carpets, all 9 to 7. Christie's, South Kensington: Oriental ceramics, 9.15 to 12; watercolours, 9.15 to 12; pictures, drawings and watercolours, removed from the studio of K Nixon, 9.30 to 4.30; silver, 9.15 to 12; oriental and Islamic textiles and costumes, 9.30 to 7; old and modern jewelry, 9.30 to 4.30; carpets and objects of art, 9.15 to 7; English and Continental pictures, 9.15 to 7; furniture, 1 to 7; European ceramics, 5 to 7. Phillips, Blenheim Street: prints, 9 to 10.30; furniture, carpets and works of art; antique and modern jewelry; Chinese, Japanese and Middle Eastern ceramics and works of art; decorative arts, ceramics, all 9 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Bond Street: jewels, 9.30 to 4.30; topographical paintings, 9.30 to 4.30; pictures (fast sale) 9.30 to 7.30. Sotheby's, Belgravia: toys and dolls; Oriental ceramics, both 9.30 to 4.30.

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The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.79	1.71
Austria Sch	32.25	30.25
Belgium Fr	85.00	82.00
Canada $	2.34	2.25
Denmark Kr	14.91	14.16
Finland Mkk	8.74	8.29
France Fr	11.58	10.98
Germany DM	4.56	4.31
Greece Dr	123.50	114.50
Hongkong $	11.30	10.70
Italy Lir	2430.00	2330.00
Japan Yn	462.00	436.00
Netherlands Gld	4.99	4.73
Portugal Esc	133.00	125.00
South Africa Rd	2.05	1.90
Spain Pta	195.50	186.50
Sweden Kr	11.14	10.56
Switzerland Fr	3.68	3.46
USA $	1.93	1.86

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

London: The *FT* Index was up 3.3 at 578.8 on Friday.

Nature notes

First blackbirds are singing, from low boughs and chimney pots at sunset. Yellowhammers begin to sound along country roads, their head and breast brilliant yellow in their spring plumage. Robins are forming into pairs: the females have abandoned their own territories, and each flits back persistently into the territory of a chosen male until he accepts her and lets her stay unharried. He will go on defending the territory, by fighting and posturing, against all other robin invaders. Distinctly fewer wrens are to be heard singing this year—the species was evidently hard hit by the cold.

Alder catkins swing on the trees, a dappled red and yellow, side by side with the purple, egg-shaped female catkins, and the old seed-cones from last year. On the lime-trees, the buds are red, the twigs pink and olive. Coltsfoot is appearing on bare stretches of roadside: the yellow heads face the sky on their stiff, scaly stems. The coltsfoot leaves only emerge, flat on the ground, after the flowers are out. In the woods, winter aconites, the earliest to bloom of the buttercup family, display their yellow flowerheads with a ruff of leaves below: they are a southern European flower that has gone native in Britain.

DJM

Church music

Southwark Cathedral, today: Harry Bramma (organ), 1.10 pm.

Chichester Cathedral, tomorrow: Haroutune Bedelian (violin), 1.10 pm.

St Paul's Cathedral, Friday: Anthony Gould (organ), 12.30 pm.

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for £100,000, £50,000 and £25,000 Premium Bond prizes announced on Saturday, are: £100,000: No 4XB 469235 (the winner lives in Cheshire); £50,000: No 13ZT 314308 (Surrey); £25,000: No 2BF 290308 (Enfield, north London).

Sporting fixtures

Football: Fourth division: Port Vale v Wigan Athletic.

Racing: Meetings at Fontwell Park (1.30) and Wolverhampton (1.15).

Rail

Near normal rail services are expected today on most BR regions following yesterday's Aslef strike, with commuter services operating as usual, but subject to last-minute cancellations on some lines. But night services will be truncated ahead of tomorrow's stoppage.

Road

Scotland: A95: Temporary signals near Grantown-on-Spey, Invernesshire; A832: traffic lights operating between Achnasheen and Achanalt (indicate delays; M9: all traffic sharing one carriageway at junction 10 (Stirling), the AA reports.

Wales and the West: A338: Major repairs on Bournemouth by-pass, near railway station; A390: delays between Callington and Redruth due to temporary signals at St Blazey Gate (Cornwall); A4076: Road width reduced at Johnston between Haverfordwest and Milford Haven, Dyfed.

Prerecorded travel information on Traveline—Rail: 01-246 8030; Road: 01-246 8031; Sea: 01-246 8132; Air: 01-246 8033.

Belgian strikes

Services in Belgium will be paralysed for 24 hours today by a general strike called in protest at government austerity measures. There will be no trains, law courts, newspapers, buses, post office and telephone services, or crèches. Hospitals, radio and television, pharmacies and fire services will run minimum services, and most big industries face a total standstill.

The papers

Sir Freddie Laker's failure is a tragedy The Sunday Times says in an editorial. It criticizes the banks for failing to exercise control over their investment. No responsible financial institution or government would have been justified in throwing in more money, but the Laker legacy of cheap air travel should not be allowed to die and price-fixing cartels take over.

The Observer urges Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor to abandon monetarist shibboleths and try to get the economy moving through public expenditure projects and tax cuts in next month's Budget. He should put the emphasis on help for industry.

Mr Francis Pym is congratulated in the Sunday Telegraph for warning the public to expect falling living standards and a hard struggle ahead. "Are we as a country so wedded to illusion that the obvious can be so shocking?" the paper asks.

Anniversaries

Births: John Ruskin, London, 1819; Jules Verne, Nantes, 1828. Mary, Queen of Scots was executed at Fotheringhay Castle, Northamptonshire, 1587. The Earl of Mayo, Viceroy of India, was assassinated at Port Blair, Andaman Islands, 1872.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Employment Bill, second reading.

Lords (2.30): Antiquities Bill, second reading; debate on European committee report on banks.

Weather

A ridge of high pressure over the British Isles will move E as a deep depression advances towards Iceland.

6 am to midnight

Central S England, Midlands: Sunny periods, some mist or fog at first, becoming cloudy; rain from W during afternoon; wind W, light, becoming S, fresh, strong in places; max temp 9C (48F).

Channel Isles, SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, N Ireland: Bright at first, soon becoming cloudy; periods of rain; wind W, moderate, soon backing S, strong or gale; max temp 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee: Sunny periods, becoming cloudy, rain from W during afternoon; wind NW, moderate becoming S, strong, perhaps gale; max temp 9C (48F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny periods becoming cloudy, snow turning to rain over lower ground, spreading from W during afternoon; wind NW, moderate, backing S and increasing gale; max temp 6C (43F).

Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland: Bright at first, soon becoming cloudy; snow turning to rain over low ground; wind S, fresh, increasing gale; max temp 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Unsettled, very windy; near normal temperatures.

SEA PASSAGES: S. North Sea: Wind W, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind mainly SW, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S, strong, occasional gale; sea very rough.

Sun rises: 7.28 am. Sun sets: 5.2 pm. Moon sets: 7.49 am. Moon rises: 5.16 pm.

Full moon: 7.57 am

Lighting-up times

London 5.32 pm to 6.56 am
Bristol 5.42 pm to 7.6 am
Edinburgh 5.31 pm to 7.22 am
Manchester 5.35 pm to 7.10 am
Penzance 5.58 pm to 7.14 am

Yesterday

Temperature at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	6	43	Guernsey	c	8	64
Birmingham	c	6	43	Inverness	r	4	39
Blackpool	c	6	43	Jersey	c	9	46
Bristol	c	8	46	London	r	9	48
Cardiff	c	7	45	Manchester	c	6	43
Edinburgh				Newcastle	c	8	46
Glasgow	c	6	43	Ronaldsway	f	8	46

London

SATURDAY
Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 12C (54F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 9C (48F). Humidity: 6 pm, 80 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 2.8hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,017.7 millibars, falling.

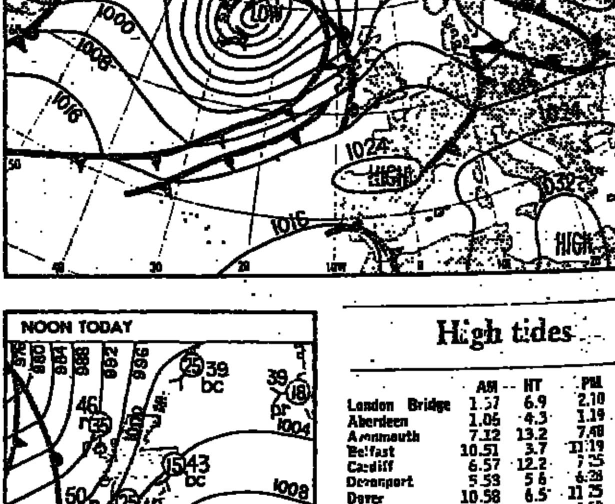
YESTERDAY
Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); min 6 pm to 6 am 9C (48F). Humidity: 6 pm, 92 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.23in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,040.1 millibars, falling. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 151R: (Feb 9) 6.32-6.37; S; 25SE; E. Cosmos 1220R 19.5-19.10; WNW; 20NNW; NNE and 20.49-20.50; NW; 15NNW; NNW. Cosmos 185R: 19.8-19.14; NW; 55NE; ENE* and 20.48-20.52; NW; 40W; W*. Aryabhata (Feb 9) 6.4-6.8; WSW*; 30SW; SSE. Agena DR (Feb 9) 2.59-3.3; NNE* 20NNE; ENE and 4.42-4.52; NNW*; 40NE; ESE and 6.27-6.33; NW; 55W; S.

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University, Birmingham.



NOON TODAY

b—blue sky, bc—blue sky & cloud, c—cloudy; o—overcast, f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.57	6.9	2.10	7.1
Aberdeen	1.05	4.3	1.19	4.4
Avonmouth	7.12	13.2	7.48	13.3
Belfast	10.51	3.7	11.19	3.3
Cardiff	6.57	12.2	7.25	12.3
Devonport	5.53	5.6	6.28	5.4
Dover	10.58	6.5	11.25	6.7
Falmouth	5.33	5.4	5.53	5.2
Glasgow	12.47	4.6	12.53	4.9
Harwich	11.52	4.0		
Holyhead	10.14	5.7	10.41	5.6
Hull	6.15	7.4	6.38	7.6
Ilfracombe	5.53	9.3	6.21	9.3
Leith	2.20	5.6	2.46	5.4
Liverpool	11.13	9.6	11.39	9.6
Lowestoft	9.35	2.5	9.83	2.5
Margate			12.12	4.6
Milford Haven	6.12	7.2	6.38	7.1
Newquay	5.02	7.1	5.28	7.1
Oban	5.50	4.0	6.24	4.0
Penzance	4.53	5.7	5.25	5.5
Portland	6.54	2.8	7.35	2.0
Portsmouth	11.21	4.6	11.53	4.7
Shoreham	11.07	6.3	11.40	6.4
Southampton	10.46	4.5	11.17	4.7
Swansea	6.19	9.6	6.46	9.6
Tees	3.32	5.4	3.48	5.6
Walton-on-Naze	11.44	4.2		

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarborough	5.6	—	7	45	Sun pds
Bridlington	3.4	—	7	45	Sun ints
Cromer	3.4	.01	10	50	Rain pm
Lowestoft	2.3	.07	9	48	Rain pm
Clacton	—	.20	8	46	Rain
Thanet	—	.24	11	52	Rain
Folkestone	—	.18	8	46	Drizz am
Hastings	—	.13	7	45	Rain
Eastbourne	—	.17	9	48	Drizzle
Worthing	—	.37	8	46	Rain
Littlehampton	—	.37	8	46	Rain
Bognor Regis	—	.28	7	45	Rain
Bournemouth	—	.38	8	46	Rain
Poole	—	.33	9	48	Rain
Swanage	—	.43	9	48	Rain
Weymouth	—	.36	8	46	Rain
Exmouth	—	.10	10	50	Drizzle
Teignmouth	—	.14	10	50	Rain
Torquay	—	.26	11	52	Rain
Falmouth	—	.07	10	50	Rain am
Penzance	—	.33	11	52	Rain am
Jersey	1.0	.01	10	50	Rain pm
Guernsey	—	.13	11	52	Rain pm
Ilfracombe	—	.13	9	48	Cloudy
Tenby	—	.03	8	46	Showers
Anglesey	2.4	.08	9	46	Shwr pm
Colwyn Bay	3.9	—	9	48	Sun ints
Southport	3.5	.05	7	45	Sun ints
Blackpool	4.1	—	7	45	Sun ints
Morecambe	3.8	.02	8	46	Shwr pm
Douglas	4.4	.05	8	46	Shwr pm
Aldergrove	0.2	.09	7	45	Showers
Eskdalemuir	—	.51	5	41	Rain
Prestwick	0.7	.12	8	46	Showers
Abbotsinch	0.3	.11	7	45	Sleet pm
Tiree	2.9	.29	8	46	Hail pm
Stornoway	1.5	.14	5	41	Sleet pm
Lerwick	5.9	.08	6	43	Shwr pm

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; fg, fog.

		C	F
Alaccio	f	14	57
Akrotiri	c	13	55
Alexandria	f	16	61
Algiers	f	15	57
Amsterdam	d	7	45
Athens	s	11	52
Bahrain			
Barbados			
Barcelona	s	11	52
Beirut	s	16	61
Belgrade	c	3	37
Berlin	c	7	45
Bermuda			
Biarritz			
Boulogne	c	7	45
Bordeaux	s	11	52
Boston			
Brussels	c	6	43
Budapest	fg	−1	40
Cairo			
Cape Town			
Casablanca	f	18	64

		C	F
Chicago			
Cologne	f	10	50
Copenhagen	f	4	39
Corfu	s	13	55
Dallas			
Dublin	c	9	48
Dubrovnik	s	9	48
Faro	c	15	59
Florence	c	8	46
Frankfurt			
Funchal	c	17	63
Geneva	s	9	48
Gibraltar	c	16	61
Helsinki	f	−14	7
Innsbruck	s	7	45
Istanbul	s	4	39
Jiddah			
Johannesburg			
Las Palmas	f	21	70
Lisbon	r	10	50
Locarno	s	6	43
Los Angeles			
Luxembourg	c	7	45

		C	F
Madrid	c	6	43
Majorca			
Malaga	c	14	57
Malta	s	15	59
Melbourne			
Mexico City			
Miami			
Milan	f	2	36
Montreal			
Moscow	s	−16	3
Munich	f	8	46
Nairobi			
Naples	c	10	50
New York			
Nice	s	14	57
Oslo	c	−4	25
Ottawa			
Paris	c	8	46
Prague	f	6	43
Reykjavik	sn	−3	27
Rhodes	s	13	57
Riyadh			
Rio de Janeiro			

		C	F
Rome			
Salzburg	c	5	41
Sao Paulo			
San Francisco			
Santiago			
Seoul			
Singapore			
Stockholm	sn	−4	[illegible]
Strasbourg	c	12	[illegible]
Tangier	f	18	[illegible]
Tel Aviv	c	14	[illegible]
Tenerife	f	21	[illegible]
Tokyo			
Toronto			
Tunis	s	[illegible]	[illegible]
Valencia	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vancouver			
Venice	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Warsaw	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Washington			
Zurich	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]